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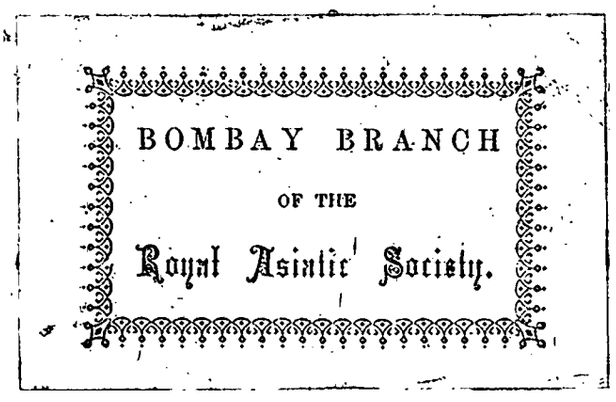

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1901-1902.

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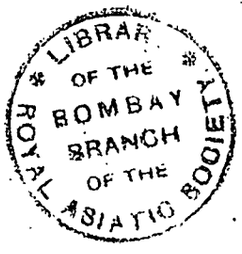
PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.



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ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1901-1902.

PART I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

CHAPTER I.

POLITICAL AND PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S TOURS IN 1901-1902.

1. The head-quarters of Government during the year 1901-1902 were at Darjeeling from 3rd May to 6th July, and again from 7th September to 29th November: for the remainder of the year Government remained at Calcutta.

The late Sir John Woodburn was the Lieutenant-Governor throughout the year, and made four tours, during which he visited the following places:—Malda, Rampur Boalia, Pabna, Faridpur, Comilla, Barisal, Kalimpong, Gangtok, Kurseong, Muzaffarpur, Bettiah, Gaya, Dehri-on-Sone, Rhotas, Bolpur, Suri, Asansol, Sijna and Govindpur.

The first was the usual monsoon tour which commenced on the 6th July and ended on the 31st. Leaving Darjeeling on the 6th July the Lieutenant-Governor embarked on board the *Rhotas* at Manihari Ghat and proceeded to Malda, where the work of repairing and restoring the ruins of Gour and Pandua was inspected. At Rampur Boalia Sir John Woodburn opened the College Boarding-house built at the expense of Rani Hemantkumari of Puthia, and after visiting Pabna and Faridpur he went to Comilla. The party next visited Barisal and returned to Calcutta on the 31st *viâ* the Sundarbans. Subsequently His Honour inspected the Bhil route in the Jessore district.

On the 2nd November the Lieutenant-Governor left Darjeeling on tour and visited Kalimpong and Gangtok. At the former place Sir John Woodburn inspected the mission work and opened a new cottage in connection with the St. Andrew's Colonial Homes; at Gangtok he exchanged visits with the Raja of Sikkim.

The next tour commenced on the 19th January, on which date His Honour left Calcutta for Bihar. At Muzaffarpur he was present at the Assault-at-arms of the Behar Light Horse and then went to Bettiah. At Tribeni the Lieutenant-Governor laid the foundation-stone of the head sluice of the Tribeni Canal. He then visited some indigo factories, Pipra, Poosah, Ottur, &c., to inspect indigo, native crop and rhea experiments. After visiting Dehri, Rhotas, and Gaya, he returned to Calcutta on the 5th February.

Sir John Woodburn's last tour was made during the latter part of February and comprised Bolpur, Suri and Asansol: at Asansol he visited the various collieries.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

2. The chief administrative changes which occurred during the year were the transfer of the Statistical Department of the Bengal Secretariat to the control of the Director-General of Statistics, and the constitution of a Mining Board for Bengal under Act VIII of 1901.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES AND FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

Sikkim.

3. The resources of the State continued to be carefully developed and the year was one of steady and gratifying progress. Crops and public health were good, and the material condition of the people generally favourable. The value of the Tibetan trade registered at Yatung showed a considerable increase. In November 1901, the Lieutenant-Governor, accompanied by the Chief Secretary and the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division, went to Gangtok to return the visit paid to him at Darjeeling by the Maharaja in 1900: presents were interchanged and affairs of State discussed.

Bhutan.

4. Relations with Bhutan continued to be satisfactory.

Cooch Behar.

5. The working of the year was successful. A decline in the receipts from stamps was more than compensated for by a rise in the Excise revenue. Good progress was made with the settlement operations. Public health and the crops of the year were good, and the material condition of the people was maintained. There was very little heinous crime, and though the Police force is reported to be inefficient, steps are being taken for its improvement. Education continued to make normal progress.

Hill Tippera.

6. The year under report was not a prosperous one, and the crops, especially cotton, which is one of the chief sources of the State revenue, were unfavourable. Scarcity prevailed to some extent in the Sonamura and Udaipura Divisions, and to relieve distress, rice was distributed gratis, or sold cheap on credit. Cholera and small-pox were epidemic in the same Divisions, and small-pox appeared in several parts of the State. In spite of the decrease in the revenue from cotton, there was an increase of $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the total revenue.

Tributary and Political States of Chota Nagpur.

7. Raja Chandra Deo, Chief of Bonai, died in February 1902, and the succession of his son, Tekait Dharanidhar, was duly recognised by Government. In the same month also died Thakur Mohendra Narayan Singh Deo, Chief of Kharsawan, his son, Sri Ram Chandra Singh Deo, succeeding him with the approval of Government. Both States have been placed under Government management during the minority of the two Chiefs. In Udaipur, where also the Chief is a minor, the administration was placed under a Manager appointed by Government. The revenue of the several States increased by Rs. 1,43,861 and the excise administration has been placed on a better footing in nearly all of them. Public health was good, and the condition of the people on the whole fair, except in Sirguja and Udaipur. Education made good progress, an increase having occurred both in the number of schools and in the number of pupils attending them. An increase in the number of criminal cases instituted, though to a certain extent due to bad harvests, is probably to a still larger degree the result of greater facilities being given for the regular hearing of complaints.

Orissa Tributary States.

8. The Chief of Athmallik, Maharaja Mahendra Deo, who died in November 1901, was succeeded by his son, Raja Bibhidendra Deo. During the year the State of Talcher was released from Government management on the Chief attaining his majority. Collections were good in the four

States under Government management, except in Narsingpur. More attention was paid during the year to the administration of Excise, and the receipts from Stamps and Registration both showed a considerable increase. The number of schools and of pupils attending them compares favourably with the figures of the previous year. In Nayagarh there was a certain amount of distress caused by the failure of crops, but in the other States, though crops generally were poor and the year unhealthy, the material condition of the people was above the average. The experiment of training pupils from the various States in vaccination work at the Cuttack Medical School with a view to their employment as vaccinators in their native countries promises to be a success.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

9. The rainfall of the year was generally deficient and badly distributed. As a consequence prices, especially of common rice, ruled higher than in 1900-1901. Wages, on the other hand, remained for the most part stationary. In a few localities, however, they showed some rise in consequence of a special demand for labour in connection with the coal-mining industry and railway extensions.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REALISATION OF THE REVENUE.

General.

10. The system of remitting land revenue and cesses by special money-orders continues to be popular with the proprietors of small estates. Large landholders, however, prefer to make their payments through agents at the district head-quarters. There was, as in the previous year, a considerable decrease in the number of defaults and sales, and, as neither of the two years was remarkable for its agricultural prosperity, these results are particularly encouraging. There was a small increase in the number of certificates filed, but the percentage of disposals was far above that of the preceding year.

Drainage and Embankments.

11. Much useful work was done in the direction of schemes of drainage and the improvement of embankments. Embankments are reported to have been maintained in good condition during the year throughout the Province.

Land Registration.

12. There was a large increase both in the number of applications for mutation and of disposals, and the registers prescribed under the Act are reported to be in good order.

Partitions.

13. The Estates Partition Act is said to have worked smoothly, and the number of pending cases has been considerably reduced. Desirable changes in the system of keeping *butwara* accounts have been introduced.

Advances.

14. Rupees 71,649 were advanced during the year under the Land Improvements Loans Act, XIX of 1883, the largest loans being made in the district of Gaya in the encouragement of works of village irrigation. Rupees 67,413 were advanced under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XII of 1884. Collections under the latter account were unsatisfactory, large balances remaining outstanding in Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Angul, and Ranchi, where harvests were poor.

Agricultural Banks.

15. Progress was made with the scheme for the establishment of agricultural banks for the purpose of enabling cultivators to borrow money on moderate terms. Mr. P. C. Lyon was placed on special duty during the cold weather to explain the system of these banks to the people in selected areas, and to advise and assist them in starting some, funds being placed at his disposal to provide the initial capital in Government estates. He succeeded in opening 10 banks. Since the close of the year 14 more have been started in Government estates in Birbhum, Balasore, Darjeeling, Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Saran, and Puri, while 8 have been opened in Ward's estates in Dinajpur, Cuttack, and the Sonthal Parganas.

SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.

16. The outturn of work of the various survey parties employed in the Province was generally good, though the surveyors were hampered in some districts by sickness and in others by the indifference of the villagers. Settlement operations were carried on in ten districts belonging to five out of the nine divisions, and the total area dealt with was 11,824 square miles. An account of the various operations, as well as the reasons which led to their inception, will be found in Part II. A conspicuous feature of the year's working was the extraordinary success of the recovery operations in Darbhanga, where only Rs. 198 remain due out of a total demand of Rs. 4,37,880 payable by nearly half a million landlords and tenants.

LAND RECORDS.

17. The Land Records Maintenance Act, III (B.C.) of 1895, has proved a failure, and the Government of India have had under their consideration the question of the future maintenance or revision of settlement records.

GOVERNMENT AND WARDS' AND ATTACHED ESTATES.

18. The only material change made in the management of Government estates during the year was that a portion of the khas mahal establishment of the Province was declared to be permanent and pensionable. The condition of the raiyats both in Government and Wards' and Attached Estates was generally good.

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES.

19. The relations between landlords and tenants during the year were on the whole satisfactory. The Bengal Tenancy Act worked smoothly and its provisions are every year becoming better known.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

LEGISLATION.

20. In matters of legislation the year was uneventful, the only Bill brought before the Council being a Bill to extend the Calcutta Electric Lighting Act, 1895, to the Howrah Bridge. This Bill was, after the close of the year, passed into law as Bengal Act I of 1902.

POLICE.

21. Police administration generally in the Province has been unsatisfactory for some time past, and during the year under report a very close and minute examination of the system now prevailing was made by Government. The result was to convince Sir John Woodburn that in no branch of the administration of the Province is radical reform so imperative as in that which deals with Police matters. To this end far-reaching proposals were submitted to the Government of India in December 1901, for adding to the superior cadre, for increasing the numbers and improving the prospects of the inspecting and investigating agencies, and for securing the better conduct of Police prosecutions before the Courts. Since the close of the year similar detailed recommendations for the improvement of other portions of the Force, including the Calcutta Police, the Municipal Constabulary, and the Railway and River Police have been formulated for the consideration of the Government of India and the Police Commission now sitting to enquire into Police Administration in India generally.

22. The conduct of the Force employed was on the whole good, and commendable features in the year's administration were the greater use by the Police of their power to refuse investigation under section 157, Criminal Procedure Code, and the greater attention to the all-important matter of improving and fostering the chaukidari agency. Rewards paid to chaukidars have increased by 33 per cent. since 1899, and though it is manifest that in some districts rewards and punishments have not been as judiciously meted out as they might have been, it is no less apparent that in the Province as a whole chaukidari administration has undergone a very appreciable change for the better. On the other hand, the percentage of persons convicted in Police cases to those sent up for trial was even lower than in the preceding year, and the continued ill-success of the Police in that part of their work, by which they are most commonly judged, strengthens the conclusions already arrived at by Government as to the necessity for an increase in their number and an improvement in their prospects.

23. The volume of crime for the year was much the same as in 1900, and considerably above the decennial average. The increase noticeable as compared with 1899 is almost entirely under offences against property, and is to be attributed to the high prices which prevailed during the year. The only other noteworthy features of the year were an increase in riots, especially in cases attended with loss of life, and the continued failure of the efforts made to repress dacoity.

CALCUTTA POLICE.

24. The working of the Force under the control of the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, during the year, left much to be desired. The widespread strike in June 1901 of hackney-carriage drivers and carters was ascribed in great measure to the habitual blackmailing practised by the Calcutta Police. The large falling off in cases of obstruction of traffic sent up by the Force in the latter part of the year under the Police Act supports this belief, or, on the other hand, goes to show that, after the enquiry into the strike, the Police neglected to carry out their duties under the law.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

25. The Court of a Municipal Magistrate in Calcutta for the trial of offences under the Calcutta Municipal Act was established with effect from the 1st February 1901 and worked with signal success. Otherwise the judicial staff employed in the Province in criminal work was much the same as in the previous year. There was a very large decrease in the number of criminal cases coming before Courts of first instance, chiefly contributed by the Calcutta Courts, where the number of prosecutions instituted under the Police Act, the Municipal Act and the Cruelty to Animals Act was greatly below that of the previous year. The most marked feature in the year's figures for Courts of Sessions was a decided increase in the number of appeals preferred. In the High Court, revision cases showed a large increase: otherwise the year was a normal one. The charges of the year rose by Rs. 5,000, while the receipts fell by about Rs. 35,000.

JAILS.

26. The total number of prisoners confined in the various jails was the highest yet recorded, as was also the daily average population. A special grant of Rs. 1,50,000 was made for increasing the jail accommodation, and new buildings are in course of construction at several of the larger jails. The extensions sanctioned will, however, require to be considerably supplemented, if the daily average population shows any tendency to increase further. The most gratifying feature in the year's administration was the improvement in the health of the prisoners, which in 1900 left much to be desired, and the death-rate of 1901 (27·5) compares very favourably with the decennial average (32·7). The manufactures on which the convicts were employed show very commendable results. Against this, however, has to be set off an increase in the cost per head of the prisoners, due to comparative dearness of food-grains.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

27. The most marked feature of the year was the very large decrease in the number of original suits instituted, but for reasons given in the Chapter in Part II on "Civil Justice" this decrease is not to be taken as indicative of any tendency on the part of the inhabitants of the Province to have less recourse to litigation. Owing to the heavy arrears outstanding at the beginning of the year, and to a continued increase in the proportion of contested to uncontested cases, the diminution in the number of original suits brought no relief to the staff employed, who were compelled to work at high pressure throughout the year. To help the permanent staff several temporary appointments were made, but the result was not altogether satisfactory. At the close of the year, though the pending file of original suits had been slightly reduced, the number of pending appeals had increased. The receipts of the year exhibited a decrease on the previous year's figures of over 2½ lakhs consequent on the fall in the volume of litigation, while, owing to the temporary additions to the staff, expenditure rose by over three-fourths of a lakh.

REGISTRATION.

28. Registration continued to make steady progress, and the figures of the year are the highest on record.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION.

Municipalities outside Calcutta.

29. The number of municipalities in existence in Bengal on the 31st March 1902 was 157, excluding Calcutta. Two new municipalities came into existence during the year, one being formed at Tollyganj by dividing up the South Suburban Municipality, which had become too unwieldy for efficient administration, and the other at Giridih. In the various municipalities, with but very few exceptions, the year was one of steady progress. Collections improved considerably, and in 19 towns the Commissioners succeeded in realising practically the whole of the current demand. The total expenditure of the year was Rs. 45,56,164, or an increase of Rs. 1,83,589, which was shared by all the main branches of municipal administration. Large schemes for the improvement of the water-supply in the Garden Reach, South Suburban and Darjeeling Municipalities were sanctioned during the year, and in several other municipalities considerable activity, though on less ambitious lines, was displayed in the same direction and in the improvement of drainage.

Calcutta Municipality.

30. In Calcutta, too, the year has been for the most part one of good progress in municipal matters. The new constitution continued to work smoothly, and the Commissioners were zealous in the discharge of their duties. The Administrative Departments were reorganised during the year with good results, particularly in the case of the Collection Department; while in the Accounts Branch revised rules have been framed by the Corporation, with the help of the Public Works Accounts Department and the Financial Department of the Government of India, in order to secure the speedy audit and payment of bills for work done for the Municipality. The division of the town into four districts was also completed during the year, and each district is now manned with a Health Department and an Engineering Department of its own under the control of the Central Office.

31. In some few respects, however, progress was not so great as could have been wished. There are indications that more might have been done in the direction of street conservancy, especially in the poorer parts of the town, and though difficulties undoubtedly hampered the Commissioners in regard to the Suburban drainage scheme, the Lieutenant-Governor is disposed to think that greater advance might have been made with it. Nor is he disposed to think that the delay incurred in the inception of the continuous water-supply project was unavoidable. The finances of the Corporation are in a thoroughly sound condition, and the valuation of the town has increased by about 50 lakhs in the last ten years, and by over 14 lakhs since the introduction of the new Municipal Act.

Puri Lodging-house Act.

32. The Puri Lodging-house Act worked satisfactorily during the year in all places where it was in force. It was extended during the year to the village of Jessidih Bazar in the Deoghur subdivision of the Sonthal Parganas district. The health of the places subject to the operation of the Act was generally good, and the number of deaths amongst pilgrims fell from 730 to 510.

District and Local Boards and Union Committees.

33. The number of District and Local Boards and of Union Committees in existence during the year was practically the same as in 1900-1901. From all the Divisions, except Orissa, good reports have come as to the work of the District Boards and their co-operation with the executive for the efficient administration of the areas under their control. In Orissa the Commissioner complains of a disinclination amongst those

qualified for membership to offer themselves for election, and of poor attendance at the meetings. With an increase of the cess valuation and consequent increase in the funds, at the disposal of the District Boards in this Division, interest in their administration, it is hoped, will revive. The utility of the various Local Boards has been less marked, and in recent years the policy has been to abolish those formed for the Sadar subdivisions of districts in cases in which such a course is recommended by the local authorities. Union Committees, with but few exceptions, have failed through want of opportunity or desire to serve any useful purpose.

34. The total expenditure of the various District Boards during the year amounted to Rs. 83,11,738, of which Rs. 46,85,791 were spent on Civil works, Rs. 13,31,926 on Education, and Rs. 4,41,939 on Medical Relief. Increased amounts were spent under education in all classes of schools, and there was an addition of 17 to the number of dispensaries maintained by the District Boards. Considerable attention was paid to the provision of veterinary assistants, and six of the Boards awarded scholarships tenable in the Belgachia Veterinary College. There was an increase of nearly Rs. 42,000 in the amount expended on the improvement of water-supply.

The road mileage under the several District Boards increased by 2,864 miles, and many of the Boards paid particular attention to the important subject of the construction and maintenance of Railway feeder roads. The special grant of five lakhs of rupees made from Provincial revenues for the improvement of communications was everywhere judiciously expended, and it has been found possible to renew the grant during the current year.

During the year revised rules under clauses (*g*), (*l*) and (*m*) of section 138 of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act were issued with a view to securing more efficient control over civil works undertaken by District Boards, and since the close of the year a Bill has been prepared to remove defects and omissions in the Act itself.

VOLUNTEERING.

35. There is little to record under this head, the only changes of any importance being that the Central Bengal Light Horse were attached to the Calcutta Light Horse, as an outlying troop, and the transfer of the head-quarters of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Volunteer Corps from Nagpur to Kharagpur.

MARINE.

GENERAL.

Plague Rules.

36. At the instance of the Medical Department rules for the inspection, observation and surveillance of persons arriving at all ports in Bengal, and suffering from or being suspected of being infected with plague, were published on the 18th March 1901. Later in the year subsidiary rules were issued for each port in Bengal.

Importation, transport and possession of carbide of calcium.

37. Draft rules for the importation, transport and possession of carbide of calcium, in which there promises to be a considerable trade in Bengal, were submitted during the year for the sanction of the Government of India.

PORT OF CALCUTTA.

38. The number of pilots on the list at the end of the year was 49, or three short of the sanctioned number. There were no casualties during

the year. The number of vessels arriving at and leaving the port was slightly below that of 1900-1901; the figures in that year having been abnormally high, on account of the large demand for transports for China and South Africa. The pilotage receipts in consequence showed a small decrease of about 2½ per cent. Themost serious casualty at the port during the year was the large fire which broke out at the Dock jetties on the 23rd November 1900, enveloping the steamers *Telena* and *Croydon*, and causing some loss of life, as well as material damage to both of the steamers and to the coaling jetties.

Health of the Port.

The death-rate amongst Europeans—16·51—was considerably below the quinquennial average, which is 27·70. No pilgrim vessels sailed from Calcutta, but the S. S. *Akbar* and *Mahammadi* arrived from Jeddah in May. The pilgrims, after their clothing had been disinfected, were as usual despatched by rail under a police escort to their destination. On the former vessel there were 16 deaths during the voyage, and on the latter 20. Vessels arriving from plague-infected ports were inspected, but no case of plague was detected on these or on any outgoing vessel.

CALCUTTA SHIPPING OFFICE.

39. The receipts of the year were slightly above those of the preceding year. The number of seamen shipped and discharged was much the same as in 1900-1901. The percentage of Europeans shipped and discharged continues to decrease, and the Shipping Master is of opinion that they are being slowly displaced by lascar crews.

CALCUTTA PORT TRUST.

40. The revenue of the year was Rs. 76,74,782, and the expenditure Rs. 73,95,123, leaving a surplus of Rs. 2,79,659. This, with the balances of previous years makes, a total available balance of Rs. 12,11,082. With this surplus the Commissioners have wisely decided to establish a revenue reserve fund to guard against a possible temporary falling off in the receipts of future years. The Port Trust Capital Debt was during the year reduced by Rs. 2,20,955. The receipts at the Jetties and at the Kidderpore Docks, as well as those under the head Port and Port approaches, were higher than in the previous year. At the Jetties the increase amounted to Rs. 1,40,167, the result of an improvement in the Foreign import trade. At Kidderpore a second Dry Dock, in which it will be possible to dock vessels for heavy repairs, which existing arrangements do not provide for, is nearly ready. The proposal to establish wireless telegraphy between Saugor and the Eastern Channel Lightships, and between the Andamans and Diamond Harbour, is still awaiting the result of experiments and enquiries by the Telegraph Department of the Government of India.

PORT OF CHITTAGONG.

41. The receipts of the year, Rs. 1,27,715, though double those of the preceding year, were almost equalled by the expenditure, and in view of the difficulty experienced in working the port satisfactorily on its present income, the Government of India have been asked to sanction the imposition of a river due not exceeding four annas per ton on all goods, except tea, imported or exported by means of sea-going vessels. Necessary additions to the existing jetty have been made, and estimates have been sanctioned for the construction of a second one. A survey of the approaches to

Chittagong and of the river Megna was carried out during the cold weather, and the operations have since been extended to Cox's Bazar.

THE PORTS OF ORISSA.

42. In view of the continued deficits in the Cuttack and Balasore Port Funds, it was decided to make further reductions in the expenditure. Consequently a single Port Officer has been appointed for all the Orissa Ports, and various reductions have been made in the Lighthouse staff at Shortt's Island. The trade of the Orissa Ports continued to decline during the year, falling from Rs. 87,98,466 in 1900-1901 to Rs. 82,42,330 in the year under review.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

AGRICULTURE.

Scientific Enquiries.

43. In connection with the alleged deterioration of jute, scientific experiments with selected seed were made at the Burdwan and Chittagong Farms. A special report on this subject will be submitted to Government in due course. Research work with a view to the improvement of indigo plant and its yield of dye was continued with the help of a Government grant during the year.

Sericulture.

44. The annual grant of Rs. 3,000 made to the Bengal Silk Committee was raised to Rs. 6,000 for the year 1902-1903 to assist the expansion of the Committee's operations and the opening of new model nurseries at the various centres of the silk districts. The Committee was informed that, if financial conditions permitted, the extra grant would be continued for two years more.

It has been decided that the primary object of the Rampur Boalia Sericultural School should be the training of the sons of cocoon-rearers, and in order to adapt the instruction given to the needs of boys of this class, their course of training will be reduced to six months and no educational qualifications will be demanded of them. A re-distribution of the District Board scholarships tenable in the school has been made, and these will, in future, be preferentially awarded to boys of the cocoon-rearer class. Educated students wishing to be trained for the posts of Sub-overseer and Inspector, will, as before, be required to undergo the year's course in the rearers' class.

Agricultural Education.

45. On the opening of the Agricultural classes at the Sibpur Engineering College, it was decided that students with certificates of proficiency in agriculture would be deemed eligible for employment in the Subordinate Revenue service as Kanungos, in the Canal Department or under the Court of Wards, and as Normal School Teachers. Orders were issued during the year that every alternate permanent vacancy in the post of Kanungo, except in the Patna Division, should be given to an eligible student of the Sibpur Agricultural classes, should one be available, and that, when vacancies occurred in posts at the disposal of the Court of Wards, applications from passed students of the College should be called for and considered.

46. Twelve Agricultural Exhibitions and cattle fairs were held during the year. Grants were made to the Sonepur, Kalimpong and Suri fairs from the sum of Rs. 2,500 placed at the disposal of the Local Government by the Government of India for the improvement of cattle breeding. Cattle Fairs.

WEATHER AND CROPS.

47. As already stated, the rainfall of the year was generally deficient and badly distributed. In Bihar the deficiency amounted to 20 per cent., and the all-important *hathiya* rains failed altogether.

48. Disquieting reports were received from the Bihar districts, where it was anticipated that some distress would be felt. In consequence of the apprehension caused by the failure of the monsoon rains, the present Lieutenant-Governor, who was Commissioner of Patna during the Bihar Famine of 1896-97, and who had served on the Indian Famine Commission of 1901, was deputed to visit Bihar and to confer with the local officers as to the agricultural situation, and to report whether scarcity or famine were to be feared and whether any measures of famine relief would be required. After a careful enquiry, Mr. Bourdillon found the situation much better than it was in 1896-97, and reported that there was no cause for immediate anxiety. The period between the monsoons passed without any need for unusual measures, except in the districts of Darbhanga and North Bhagalpur. In those two districts work on District Board roads was specially provided in certain selected tracts; and in Bhagalpur, much work was provided by private persons on tanks, and some charitable relief on a small scale was also given from funds placed at the Collector's disposal by zamindars.

FORESTS.

49. The forest administration of the year was marked by steady, if unostentatious, progress. The working plan for the Puri reserved forests was completed, and good progress made with the Singhbhum plan. Sanctioned working plans were satisfactorily worked up to.

MANUFACTURES, MINES AND FACTORIES.

50. The indigo industry remained depressed during the year: the outturn was less than half that of 1900-1901, and the quantity exported fell off by over 23 per cent. The tea industry also passed through a critical period in consequence of over-production, but at the end of the year prospects improved. During the year no less than 2,08,53,772 maunds of raw jute to the value of Rs. 12,27,31,775 were exported by sea from Calcutta, and considerable exports were made from Chittagong as well. The total area under jute cultivation is reported to be 2,339,100 acres. The output of coal during the year was 5,487,587 tons, or more than 500,000 tons above that of the previous year. There is little change to note in regard to the various other industries carried on in the Province. The number of employés in the several mills under the operations of the Factories' Act was considerably in excess of the number employed in 1900. With a view to secure sanitary improvement in the quarters occupied by mill hands in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions, the local authorities were instructed to take proceedings under the Municipal Act in selected areas where improvement was most called for.

TRADE.

51. The value of the foreign sea-borne trade of the Province during the year was the highest yet recorded and amounted to 94 crores of rupees. As usual the exports of merchandise (valued at 55⅓ crores) were a good deal larger than the corresponding imports which were estimated at about 32 crores. The imports of treasure on the other hand were valued at over 5 crores, while the exports were estimated at about half a crore only.

52. Practically the whole trade of Bengal is centred in Calcutta, the only other port worthy of mention being Chittagong, where the export trade in jute and tea have received recently a great impetus from the opening of the Assam-Bengal Railway and the establishment of a steamer service in direct communication with Europe.

53. Among the articles of import, cotton goods as usual represent about half the total value, and next in importance come iron and steel, sugar, petroleum and machinery. Five-sixths of the total value of the imports came from Europe, and of this again 67 per cent. was received from the United Kingdom. Among the articles of export, jute, raw and manufactured (valued at 19½ crores of rupees), holds the same prominent place as cotton goods do in the imports, and the value of this export is one crore greater than the aggregate value of the next three principal articles, namely, tea, opium and oilseeds. About three-fifths of the export trade was with European countries, and of this the United Kingdom took about 32 per cent.

54. The frontier trade of the Province by land with Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan was valued at 290 lakhs, nine-tenths being trade with Nepal. It is noteworthy that the value of the imports into Bengal from these countries (168⅔ lakhs) is considerably greater than that of the exports (121½ lakhs).

55. Of the trade with other provinces and parts of India, that by sea was valued at a little over 12 crores, of which imports, principally rice and kerosene oil from Burma, represented nearly 5 crores, and exports, chiefly coal, grain and pulse, 7 crores.

56. The external trade by rail and river was valued at over 40 crores of rupees, the imports, consisting principally of produce brought down to Calcutta for export over seas, being valued at about 22 crores. The exports were valued at nearly 18½ crore, the articles being chiefly those imported into Calcutta by sea. Of a like nature but more extensive is the trade of the Province with its chief port, the total imports into Calcutta from the Bengal districts being valued at over 41½ crores (a decline of 3½ crores compared with the preceding year), and the exports at nearly 23½ crores, a rise of one crore.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Imperial Works.

57. The principal Imperial Work in progress in the Province during the year was the office for the Military and Foreign Departments of the Government of India at Calcutta. Hastings House at Alipore was purchased and adapted for the accommodation of Native Chiefs when invited to Calcutta as guests of the Government of India.

Provincial Works.

58. The most important among the Provincial Works in progress during the year were the buildings which constitute the new Presidency General Hospital. Considerable progress was made with these and also with

the large Lunatic Asylum which is being built at Berhampore. Additions and improvements were made to many of the Civil and Magisterial Courts, special attention having been given to the provision of new racks and the improvement of existing racks in the record-rooms. The provision of more suitable Courts and residences for Munsifs continued to receive attention, and several such buildings were constructed or commenced during the year. Many small works were undertaken for the improvement of the jails generally, and the construction of additional wards was begun in five jails. To obtain suitable residences for officers of Government at various stations in Bengal is becoming yearly more difficult, and the question of acquiring or constructing residences for them is receiving attention.

Communications.

59. The restoration of the Provincial roads in the Darjeeling district, which were greatly injured by the cyclone of September 1899 and the heavy rains of 1900, has been completed. The Manjithar bridge over the Ranjit river, on the road from Darjeeling to Sikhim, was practically completed. Progress has been made with the construction of some feeder roads to railways in the Duars, and in the districts of Bogra and Dinajpur.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

60. The statue of Her late Majesty the Queen-Empress has, as a temporary measure, been erected on the Calcutta maidan to the south-east of the statue of Lord Lawrence.

Electric lighting was introduced into Darjeeling under the provisions of part VIII of the Bengal Municipal Act, No. III of 1884. In order to admit of the Municipal Commissioners supplying electric energy to private persons, the Calcutta Electric Lighting Act, IX (B.C.) of 1895, was extended to Darjeeling. In the town of Dacca the streets and some houses are now lit by electricity through the public spirit of the Nawab, who gave a large sum in aid of the installation. The Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation have considerably extended their operations for the supply of light to Calcutta.

Establishment.

61. A desirable alteration in the system of recruiting the Upper Subordinate staff was introduced during the year.

RAILWAYS AND TRAMWAYS.

62. The main trunk lines and their branches in Bengal are under the direct administration of the Government of India, and only a few short branches and light railways, undertaken by local private enterprise, are under that of the Government of Bengal.

Mileage.

63. The total mileage of the Province at the close of the year was 4,040 miles. Forty-two miles were opened during the year under review, of which 2 were on the standard, 30 on the metre and about 10 on the 2′ 6″ gauge. Four hundred and one miles of Railway in extension of the main lines were under construction, of which 285 miles are on the standard and 116 on the metre gauge, the principal lines under construction being on the Bengal-Nagpur and East Indian Railway systems.

Surveys.

64. The surveys of 436 miles for extensions of the Assam-Bengal, Bengal-Duars, Eastern Bengal State, and East Indian Railways were completed during the year, and the survey of the Bankura-Calcutta Chord Line was in progress.

Important Matters under Consideration.

65. The most important matters on which the Bengal Government was consulted by the Government of India were the proposed construction of the southern section of the Ranaghat-Godagiri-Katihar project, that is, from Ranaghat to Murshidabad, and the establishment of a transhipping station

on a suitable site north of the Ganges for the proposed northern section of the same project.

Lines under the Government of Bengal.

66. There were 177 miles of light and feeder lines administered by the Local Government open in Bengal at the close of the year under review. The most successful of these during the year were the Darjeeling-Himalayan and the Howrah-Amta lines. The construction of one new light line—from Bukhtiarpur to Bihar, 18¾ miles in length—was in progress. Three out of seven lines open failed to return 4 per cent., while two returned over 9 per cent. Except on the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway the return from goods traffic was very small compared with that from passenger traffic.

IRRIGATION.

67. The Major Irrigation Works in Bengal are the Orissa, Midnapore, Hijili Tidal and Sone Canals. The Orissa, Midnapore, and Sone Canals are for both irrigation and navigation, while the Hijili Tidal Canal is for navigation only.

Area irrigated.

68. The total area irrigated by these Canals during the year was 841,126 acres, or 124,843 acres in excess of the area irrigated during the previous year. The increase was chiefly due to the large area under cold weather crops irrigated by the Sone Canals System. Compared with the average area irrigated by these works during the five years ending 1900-1901 there was an increase of 108,692 acres.

Revenue.

69. The receipts during the year from irrigation, navigation and miscellaneous sources were Rs. 17,72,906, or Rs. 26,546 less than those of the previous year. The decrease was in navigation receipts, owing to the opening of the Bengal-Nagpur and Mogulserai-Gaya Railway lines.

Tribeni and Dhaka Canal Projects.

70. These schemes have already been described in the summaries of previous years. Against the provision of Rs. 30,02,055 for works in the estimate for the Tribeni Canal, the expenditure during 1901-1902 was Rs. 49,021, and to the end of that year Rs. 1,54,778. The provision for works in the estimate for the Dhaka Canal is Rs. 2,31,915. Against this sum the expenditure during 1901-1902 was Rs. 56,848, and to the end of the year Rs. 81,637.

Bhil route between the Kumar and Madhumati rivers.

71. For further improvement of the Bhil route, two estimates were sanctioned during the year. The one, amounting to Rs. 1,01,491, provided for widening and straightening the route, mainly in the entrance channels; the other, amounting to Rs. 2,25,000, provided for deepening the whole route by two feet.

New classification of the Orissa embankments.

72. In the schedules of the Orissa embankments as approved by Government in July 1894, the embankments were divided into five classes. In 1897-98 the Superintending Engineer proposed to revise the schedules and to show in them only the embankments to be maintained by Government, dividing them into two classes only, viz., A—embankments maintained as part of the canal works, and B—embankments maintained as agricultural works. These lists were approved in March last, the classification being made subject to any modification that may hereafter be found to be necessary.

Midnapore takavi embankment.

73. The last contract made with the zamindars for a period of seven years for the maintenance of the Midnapore takavi embankment expired on the 31st March 1901. The Collector of Midnapore and the Executive Engineer, Cossye Division, considered that before a fresh contract was made,

the exact liabilities of the Government during the period of its currency should be more clearly defined, and that a detailed local enquiry should be made in order to determine what embankments should be retained in the charge of the Public Works Department and what should be abandoned. This enquiry has been completed and orders fixing the period of the new contract at 15 years from 1st April 1901 will shortly be published.

Saran embankment.

74. Notifications as prescribed by section 63 of Act II (B.C.) of 1882, for the renewal of the contract for the maintenance of the Saran embankment for a further period of 20 years were published by the Revenue Department, and a sum of Rs. 4,78,000 was fixed as the amount payable, by the proprietors of estates benefited during the period commencing from 1st April 1900.

Reports on the floods of the Damodar river.

75. Early in February 1901 a petition was received from the inhabitants of Ghatal representing the damage done by the floods of September 1900, and praying for remedial measures. A report on the subject was called for from the Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle, and on his recommendation it was decided to depute an officer to enquire and report whether any steps could be taken to mitigate the damage which is frequently caused by the Damodar floods. Accordingly, in October 1901, Mr. D. B. Horn, Superintending Engineer, was deputed for the purpose. His report was submitted in February 1902, and it is now under consideration by the Chief Engineer.

Reduction of tollage in the Orissa Canals.

76. The opening of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway from Cuttack to Calcutta has caused a very considerable decrease of traffic in the Orissa Canals. A reduction of tollage rates on the Gobri Extension Canal from the Gandakia new lock to the Alba lock was sanctioned in February last, but so far it has had no effect in stimulating traffic.

Water-rates for hot-weather irrigation on the Sone Canals.

77. By a Notification, dated 27th April 1901, the rates for hot-weather irrigation from the Sone Canals were raised from Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 2-13 per bigha for water supplied between 25th March and 25th June, and from 15 annas to Re. 1-4 for each irrigation when water can only be supplied for a part of the season.

Report on Protective Irrigation Works in Bengal.

78. This report was written by Mr. G. C. Maconochy, who was appointed in accordance with paragraph 6, clause 2, of Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, Resolution No. $\frac{3}{61-1}$ F., dated 13th March 1901, on the subject of Famine Works and Programmes. The report has been submitted to the Secretary to the Irrigation Commission.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Provincial Contract.

79. The present quinquennial Provincial contract with the Government of India, which commenced with 1897-98, would, in the ordinary course of events, have expired with the year under review. The circumstances, however, of the years during which the present settlement were current were abnormal, and the Government of India are engaged in considering certain proposals as to the general character of the Provincial settlements

in future. Some time must elapse before the ycan come to a decision, and it has, therefore, been decided to allow the current settlement to remain in force during the years 1902-1903 and 1903-1904.

Financial Statement in Council.

80. The Financial Statement of the Government of Bengal was laid before the Provincial Legislative Council on the 2nd April and discussed on the 9th April 1902. The main subjects referred to by the non-official members were the encouragement of technical education; the increase of grants for primary education; the raising of the status of the officers of the Education Department, especially in the Provincial and Subordinate branches; the establishment of a mining college; Police reforms; the regulation of the price and sale of outstill liquor; agricultural banks; the improvement of the status of Statutory Civilians; grants to District Boards for the construction of roads; the condition of Tolly's Nullah; the establishment of irrigation works; the improvement and expansion of water-supply in villages and towns; and the proposed improvements in the City of Calcutta. The Financial Secretary and the other official members having replied, the President, in closing the debate, invited the attention of the Council to the most important measures which the surplus of the year had enabled him to undertake, chiefly in the direction of Public works, Irrigation works, and Education and Police reforms.

Contract Contingencies.

81. The period of five years for which grants for contract contingencies were fixed in 1897 expired on the 31st March 1902, and fresh allotments have been made for another period of five years, commencing from 1st April 1902. The items "Excise Rewards," "Diet and conveyance of under-trial prisoners," and "Law charges," which are uncertain and fluctuating, and are regulated more or less according to scale, have been eliminated from the list of contract contingent charges. Hitherto one consolidated grant has been made for all departments under the control of the District Officers, viz., (1) Salt, (2) Stamps, (3) Assessed Taxes, (4) Land Revenue, (5) Criminal Courts, and (6) Miscellaneous, but as this was opposed to the provisions of the Civil Account Code, under which savings under "Imperial" or "Divided" heads cannot be transferred to "Wholly Provincial" heads, and *vice versâ*, separate grants have been made in the new contract for the first three "Imperial" or "Divided" heads and one consolidated grant for the remaining (Provincial) heads taken together.

LAND REVENUE.

82. The collections on account of land revenue and cesses during the year were good, the percentage of total collections on the current demand being nearly cent. per cent. both on account of land revenue and road and public works cesses.

CUSTOMS.

83. The net revenue from customs duties was 440 lakhs, or an increase over the previous year of 3 per cent. Of this sum nearly 435 lakhs were contributed by the Calcutta Custom House.

The cases adjudged under the Sea Customs Act decreased from 440 to 413, but the penalties imposed rose from Rs. 1,604 to Rs. 5,448.

The number of cases in which goods were detained for the infringement of the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act fell from 569 in

1900-1901 to 311 in the year under report, the decrease occurring in cases dealt with under section 10(*d*) of the Act, which relates to goods bearing counterfeit trade marks or false trade descriptions. In 84 cases, as compared with 226 cases in 1900-1901, the goods were released without penalty, while the number released with penalty was 225 against 328. Penalties realised amounted to Rs. 6,257, against Rs. 6,364 in 1900-1901.

OPIUM.

84. Excessive rain in January and a severe hail-storm in March made the season an unfavourable one in both agencies. Both in Bihar and Benares there was a small decrease in the area sown with poppy, and there was a decrease in the average outturn, in Bihar of nearly 10 chitaks per bigha, and in Benares of 3 chitaks per bigha. Average prices ruled considerably higher than in the previous year.

A Provident Fund for gazetted officers of the Opium Department of and above the rank of Assistant Opium Agents was instituted with effect from the 1st September 1901 and rules were framed for the working of the Fund.

SALT.

Salt Revenue and Consumption.

85. The Indian Salt Act, XII of 1882, continued to be the salt law in force in Orissa, and ran concurrently with the Bengal Salt Act of 1864 in the districts of the 24-Parganas, Khulna, Midnapore, Howrah, Backergunge, Noakhali and Chittagong. Compared with 1900-1901 there was an increase of Rs. 5,83,954, or 2·3 per cent., in receipts, and 9·02 per cent. in charges during the year. The net revenue rose by Rs. 5,41,855, or 2·2 per cent. The increase in receipts occurred mainly under the two heads of Import and Excise duties on salt. The importations and the quantity bonded were the highest on record, freights having been comparatively cheap.

The total quantity of salt consumed in the Province rose from 1,02,27,501 maunds in 1900-1901 to 1,04,31,438 maunds, and the average wholesale price stood at Rs. 3-12-9 per maund, against Rs. 3-11-7 in the preceding year.

EXCISE.

Amendment of the Bengal Excise Act.

86. A revised Bill to amend and consolidate the Bengal Excise Act, VII of 1878, was prepared during the year, and has since been submitted to the Government of India.

Reorganisation Establishment.

87. It was noticed in last year's report that proposals for strengthening and improving the Excise establishment in the Province had been formulated and submitted for the approval of the Government of India and the Secretary of State. The sanction of the Secretary of State to the revision was received during the year, but effect could not be given to the new scheme until after its close.

Results of the year.

88. The gross Excise revenue during the year was Rs. 1,50,25,309, against Rs. 1,46,48,409 in 1900-1901; the charges were Rs. 6,75,818, against Rs. 6,73,358; and the net revenue was Rs. 1,43,49,491, against Rs. 1,39,75,051. The net revenue showed an increase of Rs. 3,74,440, or 2·6 per cent., over that of the previous year, and was the largest on record. The average incidence of Excise revenue per head of population rose from 3 annas 1 pie in 1900-1901 to 3 annas 2 pies in 1901-1902.

Offences against the Excise Laws, and Rewards.

89. The number of arrests for offences against the Excise laws rose from 3,091 in 1900-1901 to 4,056 in the year under report, and the percentage of convictions from 88·4 to 88·6. The total amount of fines imposed for breaches of the Excise laws and rules was Rs. 77,904, against Rs. 64,536 in 1900-1901, of which Rs. 60,681, or 77·8, were realized. A sum of Rs. 63,923, or 82 per cent., of the fines imposed, was distributed in rewards to Excise officers, to officers of Government other than those of the Excise Department, and to informers and others who assisted in the detection of breaches of the law.

STAMPS.

Statistics.

90. The receipts, charges and net revenue in 1901-1902 under the Indian Stamp Act, II of 1899, and the Court Fees Act, VII of 1870, as amended by subsequent enactments, were Rs. 1,90,17,932, Rs. 4,94,012 and Rs. 1,85,23,920, respectively, against Rs. 1,84,34,830, Rs. 4,83,092 and Rs. 1,79,51,738 in the preceding year. The increases in receipts occurred both under judicial and non-judicial stamps.

INCOME-TAX.

Statistics.

91. The year was one of steady progress. The receipts, charges and net revenue in 1901-1902 were Rs. 56,56,735, Rs. 2,13,398 and Rs. 54,43,337, respectively, against Rs. 52,64,685, Rs. 1,99,759 and Rs. 50,64,926 in the preceding year. The net revenue increased by 7·5 per cent., as compared with an increase of ·9 per cent. in 1900-1901; the demand increased by Rs. 3,87,125; and the standard of collections was maintained.

FORESTS.

92. The results of the year's working of the Forest Department were eminently satisfactory. The revenue was higher than it had ever been before except in 1896-97, and the actual surplus obtained was the highest on record.

PROVINCIAL FINANCE.

93. Provincial receipts and charges were both higher than in the preceding year, which closed with a surplus of about 4¾ lakhs of rupees. The increased receipts were due to larger sales of court-fee stamps and better settlement of Excise licenses, as well as to recoveries of arrear contributions from Municipalities and District Boards on account of their share of the cost of plague camps in 1899-1900 and 1900-1901. The increase in expenditure occurred partly in the Public Works Department on account of Civil Works, and partly owing to increased charges in connection with District Administration and Surveys and Settlements. There were also increases under the head Courts of Law, due to the revision of the salaries of District and Sessions Judges, and under that of Jails, owing to an increased jail population.

LOCAL FUNDS.

94. The total receipts of the Incorporated Local Funds were in excess of the charges during the year, and the balance at their credit increased by about ½ lakh. Owing to the introduction of the Cess Act of 1880, the Road Account of the Sonthal Parganas was closed on the 31st

March 1902 and the unspent balance was transferred to the District Road Fund. The total receipts of the Excluded Local Funds, including those of Municipalities and the Chittagong Port Trust, were also higher than the charges. The three separate Port Funds of Cuttack, Puri and Balasore were amalgamated. An additional grant of Rs. 10,000 was made from Provincial Revenues to the Zoological Garden, for the purposes of carrying out improvements suggested by His Excellency the Viceroy, and a similar grant was made by the Maharaja of Mymensingh.

ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS CESS.

Extension of the provisions of the Cess Act, IX (B.C.) of 1880, to the Sonthal Parganas.

95. It was noticed in the Report for 1899-1900 that Government had decided to introduce the provisions of the Bengal Cess Act, IX of 1880, into the district of the Sonthal Parganas (excluding the Damin-i-koh), as portions of the district came under re-settlement. During the year under report orders were issued extending the provisions of the Act to certain tracts in that district with effect from the 1st September 1901.

Statistics.

96. The current net demand of the Province for both these cesses was Rs. 93,26,543, and the arrear demand was Rs. 16,75,523, making a total demand of Rs. 1,10,02,066, against Rs. 1,08,59,629, the demand of the previous year. The total collections amounted to Rs. 93,13,325. The gross rental on which cesses are levied has risen from Rs. 3,11,68,432, the amount when the road cess was first introduced, to Rs. 17,03,53,369. Valuations or re-valuations, partial or complete, were conducted in 33 out of 44 districts (including the Sonthal Parganas) to which the Bengal Cess Act, IX of 1880, applies.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

VITAL STATISTICS.

97. The conditions of the year—scanty and unevenly distributed rainfall, and consequent decrease in the crop outturn—were to some extent reflected in the vital statistics of the year. The death-rate, though considerably lower than that of 1900, was higher by ·19 per mille than the quinquennial average rate. The reported birth-rate, on the other hand, improved.

Cholera broke out to a considerable extent in Orissa only. There was, however, a severe outbreak of small-pox, and the mortality from this disease was greater than in any year since 1877. Plague was epidemic in Calcutta and in the western districts of the Province.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

98. In the place of the single Superintendent of Emigration, who previously had jurisdiction throughout Bengal, five Superintendents were appointed with jurisdictions over the following districts, viz., (1) Ranchi and Palamau, (2) Singhbhum and Manbhum, (3) Hazaribagh, (4) the Sonthal Parganas, and (5) the remaining districts of Bengal.

In addition, with the object of preventing abuses and of enforcing the observance of the Emigration law in the recruiting districts, a Travelling

Superintendent for Bengal and the Central Provinces, with head-quarters at Purulia, was appointed with the sanction of the Government of India.

The number of emigrants recruited for the Colonies was only slightly less than that of the previous year, but the number of those despatched to Assam was less than half that of 1900. The explanation of this great decrease, as well as statistics of emigration generally, will be found under the chapter on the subject in Part II.

MEDICAL RELIEF.

Calcutta Medical Institutions.

99. An increase in the number of out-patients attending the various medical institutions in Calcutta is evidence of the growing popularity of the out-door departments of the Hospitals there, especially of that attached to the Medical College. The popularity of the Sambhu Nath Pundit Hospital with in-patients resulted, as in the previous year, in overcrowding, but provison is being made for additional accommodation. In the Dufferin Victoria Hospitals, the number of in-patients was more than double that of the preceding year. The death-rate in the various institutions fell by nearly 2 per cent., and the total number of operations performed was the considerably higher than in the previous year. The financial results of year were satisfactory. Though there was a rise in expenditure—the result chiefly of increased cost of maintenance—receipts improved by over Rs. 9,000.

The attention of Government having been drawn to the defects of the old system under which nurses were recruited for the Calcutta hospitals, a Special Committee has been appointed since the close of the year to deal with the nursing arrangements in the various hospitals, and rules have been framed for the guidance of the members of the Committee. During the year the Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers was declared an Asylum for the purposes of Act III of 1898, a Committee was appointed, and rules were framed for the management of the Asylum.

Eden Sanitarium.

100. Important improvements were made during the year in the Eden Sanitarium and Hospital at Darjeeling, and the new hospital block was formally opened by the late Lieutenant-Governor in May 1901. The number of admissions was higher than in any of the previous six years, with the result that receipts rose by nearly Rs. 10,000.

Charitable Dispensaries.

101. Though the number of dispensaries outside Calcutta was only 13 in excess of that of the previous year, the total number of patients treated rose by nearly a quarter of a million, the increase, as in Calcutta, being chiefly in out-patients. The most encouraging feature in the figures is the increased popularity of the dispensares among female patients, who numbered over 47,500 more than in 1900, which is, doubtless, greatly due to improved arrangements for their privacy while under examination or waiting for attendance.

Recently it has been the policy of Government to place dispensaries, wherever possible, under the management of local Committees, on which the general public is adequately represented. The object of this innovation was to interest the people in the management and financial wellbeing of these institutions. This result, as evinced by an increase in the amount of private subscriptions, has beena chieved to some degree, though not perhaps to the extent anticipated.

Lunatic Asylums.

102. There was a slight increase in the number of inmates of the Lunatic Asylums in the Province. The health of the patients showed a marked improvement, and far greater success was attained in discovering the cause of insanity. During the year sanction was received to the appointment of a full-time Superintendent for the Central Lunatic Asylum at Berhampore. This institution will be opened as soon as the necessary buildings are completed.

PLAGUE.

103. During the year under report Plague prevailed in the western districts of the Province, but the outbreak was far less severe than in the previous year. The districts that suffered most were Patna, Gaya, Shahabad, Saran and Darbhanga. As in previous years the epidemic began to subside during the month of April, and abated rapidly in May and June. In Calcutta Plague practically ceased to be epidemic by the end of May. Disinfection of the rooms occupied by the patients was the main instrument employed in the operations of the Plague Department, and the inhabitants offered little or no opposition to the work of the Plague staff. Huts, known to be centres of Plague, were also demolished. In the Mufassal disinfection was still regarded with suspicion, and evacuation was the only preventive measure generally accepted by the people. Several instances of opposition were reported from the Patna Division during the year.

The Plague rules for the examination of all vessels and persons leaving the ports of Calcutta and Chittagong were revised during the year so as to provide for the stricter inspection of passengers.

Inspection of passengers having been introduced at Fatehpur and Bhatni stations, in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, the Inspection camps at Chausa and Mairwa were closed. The Plague inspection at Jhobra Ferry, Cuttack, was also discontinued in October 1901.

During the year Medical Officers were appointed at the Mokameh, Rampur Hát, Kharagpur and Ranaghat Railway Stations for the detection and treatment of passengers suffering from infectious diseases.

The concession of pilgrimage to the Hedjaz was restricted only in the cases of residents of Calcutta, and of the Burdwan and Patna Divisions and the Hazaribagh district of the Chota Nagpur Division. Chittagong was the port of embarkation for pilgrims from Bengal, Burma and Assam, and also for those pilgrims belonging to the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh and Central India who wished to embark from that port. The Inspector-General of Police was, as usual, in charge of the arrangements for despatching the pilgrims.

SANITATION.

104. Municipal expenditure on sanitary purposes was considerably higher than in the preceding year, an increase being noticeable under all the important heads, especially under "Drainage" and "Conservancy." The Sanitary Board held one meeting during the year, the principal subject of discussion being the septic tank system for the disposal of sewage and its extension to municipalities. The Board continued to do useful work as a consultative body.

VACCINATION.

105. There was a severe epidemic of small-pox during the year under review, especially in the district of Midnapore, where over 13,400 deaths from this disease were recorded. The number of vaccinations performed rose by more than 300,000, the increase being contributed by rural areas, and by municipalities and dispensaries outside Calcutta. In Calcutta the system of vaccination is in great need of improvement, and Government is at present in communication with the Chairman of the Corporation with a view to its being placed on a better footing. During the year arrangements were made for the better supervision of operations in the Political and Tributary States of Chota Nagpur.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

EDUCATION.

General.

106. Though the number of institutions in existence at the end of the year was much the same as in 1900-1901, the total number of pupils attending them increased by nearly 30,000, and the proportion of pupils to estimated population of school-going age rose to 14·5. The total expenditure on education amounted to Rs. 1,22,50,475. Direct expenditure, that is, expenditure exclusive of such charges as cost of buildings, furniture and apparatus, cost of University examinations, and of supervision, inspection and scholarships, amounted to Rs. 94,11,079; of this sum, Rs. 42,65,077 were spent on secondary, and Rs. 33,32,239 on primary education. With the object of bringing expenditure on educational scholarships into accordance with the recommendations of the Education Commission of 1881, a reduction has been made in the value of Middle English scholarships and of those tenable in Arts colleges. With the savings to be thus effected, additional Upper and Lower Primary scholarships will be awarded from 1904 onwards.

Medical College.

107. The question of the enhancement of the fees payable at the Medical College has been before Government for some time. After consultation with the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals and the Council of the Medical College, it has been decided to raise the annual fee from Rs. 70 to Rs. 96, and to charge a single fee of Rs. 20 for the special class in Practical Physiology and a fee of Rs. 6 for each course of lectures on Practical Chemistry.

Technical Education.

108. The Sibpur Engineering College continued to do useful work during the year. New conditions have been imposed regarding the award of the guaranteed appointment of Assistant Engineer in the Public Works Department, and substantial inducements are now held out to attract boys of the artisan class to the College, and to keep them there till they become really proficient workmen.

With a view to the improvement of the hand-weaving industry of the Province, District Boards were invited to send weavers and carpenters from their districts to Serampore to learn the use and mode of construction of the improved loom there employed. Twenty-one District Boards took advantage of the invitation.

109. Steady progress is being made in the important matter of the substitution of trained for untrained teachers. The introduction of the new scheme of vernacular education in primary and middle schools, and also in the lower classes of high English schools, has necessitated the remodelling of the system of education obtaining in the vernacular training schools of the Province. Proposals to this effect, submitted by the Director of Public Instruction, have been sanctioned by Government. **Training Schools.**

110. Though the number of female pupils in public institutions has increased during the year from 96,857 to 100,322, progress in female education is slow, and with the disadvantageous conditions under which it labours, little substantial progress is to be looked for in the near future. **Female Education.**

111. There is little to note under the head of education of Europeans and Eurasians. Practical or technical classes have been opened in the Victoria Boys' School at Kurseong to teach the first two years' course prescribed for the Apprentice Department of the Sibpur College. On passing the Sub-Overseer's examination, boys will be drafted from this school to Sibpur, and will thus be able to qualify as Overseers after residence there for one year only. **Education of Europeans and Eurasians.**

112. Under Government orders boys of agricultural castes are concentrated, as far as possible, at the Hazaribagh Reformatory School, and boys of industrial castes at Alipore. The object of this arrangement is to secure that the boys are taught the trades, preferably those of their own caste, which will be useful to them in after-life. Efforts are being made to popularise the system under which boys from the schools are employed under licenses in mills and workshops, and steps are being taken to follow up closely for three years the history of every released boy. **Reformatory Schools.**

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

113. A good deal of work was done during the year with the object of preserving the most important of the temples, tombs and monuments scattered over the Province. In particular, the Hindu temples at Kanarak and Bhubaneswar in Orissa, the Muhammadan ruins at Pandua and Gaur, and the old hill fortress of Rhotasgarh in Shahabad received special attention.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

STATIONERY.

114. There is little to record in regard to the year's working of the Stationery Department. Two Committees met to discuss details of departmental organisation, and their recommendations were generally accepted by Government.

VETERINARY.

115. Great progress was made during the year in veterinary matters. Dispensaries increased from twelve to nineteen, and the number of animals treated was more than double that of the previous year. In pursuance of the policy of subsidising local bodies for the purpose of affording veterinary help to the rural and urban population, annual contributions were sanctioned by Government in aid of the District Board of Chittagong and of a local Committee at Dumka in the Sonthal Parganas, on the condition that the Khas Mahal raiyats of the two districts should receive veterinary advice and assistance free of charge. The Board of Revenue have also been authorised to incur expenditure out of the grant for the improvement of Government estates for the maintenance of Veterinary Assistants and for the cost of medicines in the Government estates in the districts of Jalpaiguri and Backergunge.

There was a marked decrease during the year in reported cattle disease. Rinderpest, however, was again rife in Hazaribagh, and this disease was also reported from several other districts. During the year experiments in immunisation with the anti-rinderpest *serum* were carried on successfully. The work was performed by Veterinary Assistants and senior students of the Bengal Veterinary College under the supervision of the Superintendent of the Civil Veterinary Department, Bengal, with *serum* prepared by the Imperial Bacteriologist at the Muktesar Laboratory. Experiments were made in Darjeeling to ascertain the proper amount of *serum* to be used in inoculating hill cattle.

Arrangements have been made by the Government of India for the holding of classes for the training of Veterinary Assistants in inoculation at Muktesar and at Bareilly.

PART II.

THE REPORT.

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5. Railways, canals and canalized rivers.
6. Percentage of cultivation under poppy in the Bihar and Benares Opium Agencies during 1900-1901.

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9. Percentage of boys in the Secondary stage of instruction in 1901-1902.
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12. Percentage of Muhammadan boys under instruction in 1901-1902.

ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1901-1902.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate, and Chief Staples.

Area and boundaries.

1. BENGAL (or, as it is more precisely designated, *Lower Bengal*) comprising the lower valleys and deltas of the Ganges and Brahmaputra, lies between 19°28′ and 28°8′ N. latitude and between 81°37′ and 92°44′ E. longitude. Excluding Assam, which was created into a separate administration in February 1874, Bengal now includes the four great provinces of Bengal Proper, Bihar, Orissa and Chota Nagpur, and is bounded on the north by Bhután, Tibet and Nepál; on the east by Assam and Lower Burma; on the south by the Bay of Bengal, Madras and the Central Provinces; and on the west by the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh and the Central India Agency.

2. The area of the British territories which constitute the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal is 151,185 square miles, inclusive of the area of large rivers and exclusive of the Sundarbans—a large tract of partially unsurveyed and half-submerged forest, which forms the sea-face of a great part of the delta of the Ganges and of the Brahmaputra. This tract is estimated to be 5,309 square miles in extent. In addition to the districts which are directly under British rule, there are territories governed by independent chiefs, which are under the general supervision of, and in political dependence upon, the Government of Bengal. These are the principalities of Sikkim, Cooch Behar, and Hill Tippera, situated respectively on the northern, north-eastern, and eastern boundaries of Bengal, and the two groups of petty states which lie to the south and south-west of the province, and which, under the names of the Tributary States of Orissa and of Chota Nagpur, are governed each by its own chief, under the superintendence, and with the advice, of the Commissioner of the nearest British administrative division. The area of these territories is 38,652 square miles, including 2,818 square miles of Sikkim, and as it is usual to include them when speaking of Bengal, the area of the whole province may be stated at 189,837 square miles without the Sundarbans, or 195,146 square miles if they are included. Three of the provinces of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, viz., Bengal Proper, Bihar, and Orissa, consist of great river valleys; the fourth, Chota Nagpur, is a mountainous region, which separates them from the Central Indian plateau. Orissa embraces the rich deltas of the Mahanadi and the neighbouring rivers, bounded by the Bay of Bengal on the south-east, and walled in on the north-west by tributary hill states. Proceeding eastward, the province of Bengal Proper stretches along the coast from Orissa to Lower Burma, and inland from the seaboard to the Himalayas. Its southern portion is formed by the united deltas of the Ganges and Brahmaputra; its northern portion consists of the valleys of these great rivers and their tributaries. Bihar lies on the north-west of Bengal Proper, and comprises the higher valley of the Ganges, from the spot where it issues from the territories of the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. Between Bihar and Orissa, but stretching farther westward, and deep into the hill country, lies the province of Chota Nagpur.

3. The territory thus hemmed in, except at its north-western angle, by the unchangeable landmarks of nature, consists chiefly of two broad river valleys. By the western one the Ganges brings down the accumulated waters of Northern India. The eastern valley forms the route by which the

Brahmaputra, after draining the Tibetan plateau far to the north of the Himalayas, and skirting round their passes not far from the Yang-tse-Kiang and the great river of Cambodia, ends its tortuous journey of 1,550 miles. These valleys, although for the most part luxuriant alluvial plains, are diversified by spurs and peaks thrown out from the great mountain systems which wall them in on the north-east and south-west. They produce tea, indigo, turmeric, the opium poppy, innumerable grains and pulses, pepper, ginger, betel-nut, quinine, and many costly spices, and drugs, oilseeds of various sorts, cotton, timber, the silk mulberry, inexhaustible crops of jute, and other fibres.

The length of railways completed and open for traffic on 31st March 1902 within the province was 3,746·28 miles, as shown in the margin,* excluding 101·49 miles of light railways.

A list of the canals in the province is given in the margin.† The linear miles which are navigable are specified.

The rivers comprised in the Nadia Rivers system are also included in the list of navigable channels. Their total length is 472½ miles.

* Railways.

	Miles.
Bengal and North-Western Railway	615·75
Bengal-Central Railway ...	139·00
Bengal-Duars „ ...	113·70
Bengal-Nagpur „ ...	665·53
Calcutta Port Commissioners' Railways ...	6·00
Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway	51·00
Deoghur Railway ...	4·79
Eastern Bengal State Railway	1,007·32
East Indian Railway ...	1,024·13
Tarakeshwar „ ...	22·23(*a*)
South Bihar „ ...	78·83(*a*)
Segowlie-Raksaul „ ...	18·00(*b*)
Total ...	3,746·28

Light Railways.

	Miles.
Howrah-Amta ...	28·62
Howrah-Sheakhalla ...	21·50
Ranaghat-Krishnagar ...	20·25
Tarakeshwar-Magra ...	31·12
Total ...	101·49

(*a*) Worked by East Indian Railway.
(*b*) Worked by Bengal and North-Western Railway.

† Canals.

Orissa Canals.

	Miles.
Main and Branch Canals (Irrigation) ...	279¾
Of which navigable ...	204¾
Distributary channels ...	1,132¾

Midnapore Canal.

Main and Branch Canals (Irrigation) ...	72
Of which navigable ...	72
Distributary channels ...	313·92

Hijili Tidal Canal.

Main and Branch Canals for navigation	29

Sone Canals.

	Miles.
Main and Branch Canals (Irrigation) ...	367¼
Of which navigable ...	218¾
Distributary channels ...	1,217¼

Saran Canals.

Main and Branch Canals (Irrigation only) ...	24·05

Calcutta and Eastern Canals.

Main and Branch Canals for navigation only ...	735

Orissa Coast Canal.

Main and Branch Canals for navigation only ...	129¾

There are also (1) the Eden Canal, (2) the Gaighata and Buxi khal, and (3) the Madhuban Canal. The Eden Canal is for irrigation only, and its length, including that of distributaries, is 46⅛ miles. The Gaighata and Buxi khal is for navigation only, and its length is 7½ miles. The Madhuban Canal, which is for irrigation only, is 6¼ miles in length; no water-rates are charged on this canal.

Rivers.

4. The Ganges enters Lower Bengal from the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh near Ghazipur; shortly after it receives the Gogra on the north bank, the Sone on the south, and the Gandak again on the north, at Hajipur—all rivers of considerable volume—and maintains a course generally easterly, but diversified with windings. The Kusi joins it below Bhagalpur, after which the river turns the corner of the Rajmahal hills and assumes a nearly southerly direction with its greatest body of water, till the Bhagirathi flows away on the west side to form the Hooghly, the most navigable of the many mouths, while the main stream continues south-east to Goalundo, where the Jamuna, the principal branch of the Brahmaputra, is met. About 220 miles from its mouth the Ganges spreads out into numerous branches, forming a delta. The delta, where it borders on the sea, becomes a labyrinth of creeks and rivers, running through the dense forests of the Sundarbans and exhibiting during the annual inundation the appearance of an immense sea. Higher up, the rice-fields, to the extent of thousands of square miles, are submerged during the rains. The scene at that time presents a panorama of

singular novelty and interest: the crops covered with water to a great depth; the ears of grain floating on the surface; the stupendous embankments which restrain, without altogether preventing, the excesses of the inundations; and peasants in all quarters going out to their daily work with their cattle in canoes or on rafts. The navigable streams which fall into the Ganges intersect the country in every direction and afford abundant facilities for internal communication. In many parts boats can approach by means of lakes, rivulets, and water-courses the door of almost every cottage. The lower region of the Ganges is the richest and most productive portion of Bengal, and abounds in valuable produce. Another large river by which Bengal is intersected is the Brahmaputra, which is formed by the union of several great streams. It flows towards the south-west through the length of the Assam valley, after which it clings to the contour of the Garo Hills, and then proceeds due southwards to its junction with the Ganges near Goalundo. These two rivers proceed in diverging courses until they are more than 1,200 miles asunder; and again approaching each other, intermix their waters before they reach the ocean. The Chittagong rivers including the Fenny, which separates it from Tippera, fall into the east of the Bay of Bengal. The largest of them, the Karnaphuli, on which Chittagong is situated, rises in the north-east of the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and after a very tortuous westerly and south-westerly course falls into the Bay of Bengal. Its principal tributary is the Halda. The Sangu also follows a very circuitous course, and finally enters the Bay ten miles south of the Karnaphuli. On the western side of the Gangetic delta the rivers have little or no connection with the main water system of the country. The Damodar, the Rupnarain, and the Kasai, may all be said to join the Hooghly between Calcutta and Saugor Island; but they are isolated rivers which have sprung from the plateau of Chota Nagpur, do not help to form the delta, and are entirely independent in character. The Hooghly is the most westerly, and for commercial purposes the most important, channel by which the Ganges enters the Bay of Bengal. It takes its distinctive name near the town of Santipur, a little above the point where the waters of the Bhagirathi join those of the Mathabhanga, at a distance of about 120 miles from the sea. The united stream thus formed, and during the rest of its course known as the Hooghly, represents three western deltaic distributaries of the Ganges, viz., (1) the Bhagirathi, (2) the Jalanghi, and (3) part of the Mathabhanga, which branches off in the Nadia district. Proceeding south from Santipur, with a twist to the east, the Hooghly river divides Nadia from the Hooghly district until it touches the district of the 24-Parganas. It then proceeds almost due south to Calcutta, next twists to the south-west, and finally turns south, entering the Bay. The Subarnarekha, the Baitarani, and the Mahanadi or "Great River" of Orissa, have a direction generally parallel to one another, and a south-easterly course; the two former rising in Chota Nagpur, and the latter in the Central Provinces.

The Tista rises on the farther side of the Himalayas, and bursts through the mountain barrier before it reaches British territory. At the point where it debouches on the plains, its volume is very considerable, and it becomes at once navigable for large boats. Its tributaries include the Rang-chu and Roli, on the left bank; and on the right, the Great Ranjit, Rangjo, Rayeng, and Sivak. The Mahananda, which passes through the Darjeeling district, loses itself in the sand of the Terai for a portion of its course, but falls into the Ganges as a considerable affluent after passing through Purnea and Malda. Further west the Ganges is joined by the Kosi, which takes its rise in Nepal.

Mountains.

5. The mountains and hills of the Lower Provinces in the small part of the Himalayan chain which lies within, and borders on, the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, vary greatly in height, from Darjeeling, 7,163 feet above sea-level, on the south, to lofty Kanchinjinga in Sikkim, 28,146 feet high, on the north-west.

The Sinchula range in the Jalpaiguri district forms the boundary between British territory and Bhûtan. Its average elevation is from 4,000 to a little over 6,000 feet, the highest peak being 6,222 feet above sea-level.

The Rajmahal hills, which are estimated to cover an area of 1,366 square miles, form the eastern projection of the Central Indian formation, ending

near the town of that name, round which the Ganges flows. They are the first connected high ground that strikes the eye of the traveller ascending the Ganges. South-west of these are broken, detached hills of considerable height, the largest of which is Parasnath, rising out of the surrounding country often in an almost perfect conical form to a height of about 4,480 feet. Many of these can be seen on the chord line between Raniganj and Lakhisarai, and appear geographically as irregular links between the Rajmahal hills and the plateau of Chota Nagpur, which is hilly almost throughout, scantily populated, and covered with jungle over most of its surface. In 1858 Parasnath was selected as a convalescent depôt for European troops, but in 1868 it was abandoned, because the water-supply proved sufficient for only from 60 to 80 men, the plateau at the summit was too confined for exercise, and the solitude and quiet had a depressing effect on the invalid soldiers. To the south of Chota Nagpur, on the west side of Orissa, are the Orissa Tributary Mahals, a hilly country containing a considerable population. There are forests of sâl on the hills, which run parallel to the line of coast from north-east to south-west as far as the Chilka lake, near the south-west extremity of the province, on the banks of which, as along the seashore of Cuttack, much salt is manufactured.

The principal hill ranges in the Chittagong district are—(1) the Sitakund, (2) the Goliasi, (3) the Satkania, (4) the Maskhal, and (5) the Teknaf. Of these the most interesting is the first named, which contains the sacred peak of Chandranath or Sitakund, 1,155 feet in height, the highest hill in the district.

Hill Tippera and the Chittagong Hill Tracts are mountainous regions to the east of Bengal. The highest peak in Hill Tippera is 3,200 feet above sea-level. Dense forests cover the whole of the hilly tracts of the state. The forests give shelter to numbers of wild elephants; amongst other large game, the bison, rhinoceros, tiger, leopard and bear are found, and deer of several kinds are common. The population of this state, according to the census of 1901, numbered 173,325 souls. The highest hills in the Chittagong Hill Tracts are Rang-rangdang (2,789 feet) and Lurain-Tang (2,355 feet). The great majority of the inhabitants are either Chakmas or Maghs, both of which races profess the Buddhist religion. Valuable forest trees are found throughout almost the entire area of the Chittagong Hill Tracts. According to the census of 1901, the population of the Hill Tracts was 124,762.

Plains. 6. The greater part of Bengal and Bihar consists of uninterrupted flats subject to inundation and rich in mould, some portions being naturally more fertile than others. The Dacca Division is so fertile that it has been called the granary of Bengal. If a line be drawn southwards between Bankura and Burdwan, and carried on past Midnapore and down towards Balasore, it will be noticed that to the west the ground partakes of the character of the Chota Nagpur plateau, granite being found overlaid with carboniferous sandstone containing iron and coal in great abundance.

Lakes. 7. The Chilka lake, which is situated in the south-east corner of the Puri district in the Orissa Division, is pear-shaped, and is 44 miles long; its northern half has a mean breadth of about 13 miles, while the southern half tapers into an irregularly curved point, barely averaging five miles in width. Its smallest area is 344 square miles in the dry weather, increasing to about 450 during the rainy season. The average depth of the lake is from three to five feet. It scarcely anywhere exceeds six feet.

The Salt Water Lake in the district of the 24-Parganas is five miles east of Calcutta, between the Hooghly and Bidyadhari rivers, and covers an area of about 30 square miles. The vicinity of the lake is intersected by innumerable watercourses and rivers, which flood the country at spring tides. A part of the lake is in course of reclamation by the sewage of Calcutta being deposited in it. Besides the Chilka and Salt Water Lakes, there are no other lakes of any importance, though there are innumerable jheels or shallow sheets of water. The most remarkable of these are found in Rajshahi, Jessore, Faridpur and Backergunge.

Soils. 8. Broadly speaking the Province may be divided into two great areas, (A) the alluvial tract, and (B) the gneissic tract. The former consists of the easternmost portion of the vast Indo-Gangetic plain, while the latter is a continuation of the great table land of Central India. The alluvial tract comprises almost the whole of Bengal Proper and Bihar, together with the coast fringe

of Orissa, while the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division, the Sonthal Parganas, the southern portion of the districts of Shahabad, Patna, Gaya and Bhagalpur, and the Tributary Mahals of Orissa belong to the gneissic area.

The alluvial tract, which consists of sand and clay, brought down by the great rivers, may, again, be subdivided, according to the character of the deposits, into two classes, *i.e.*—

(*a*) The older alluvium and (*b*) the newer alluvium. The former consists of massive beds of clay, reddish-brown from being strongly impregnated with iron, and containing *kankar* or nodules of carbonate of lime. It is therefore generally known as *rea-kankar soil.* The *Rarh* country on the west of the Bhagirathi, the whole of North and South Bihar, Balasore, parts of Cuttack, parts of North Bengal (Rangpur, Dinajpur, &c.), belong to this tract. To it also belongs the area lying north of Dacca, known as the Madhupur Jungle. On the other hand, the entire area on the east of the Bhagirathi, together with the district of Chittagong and the Mahanadi Delta in Orissa, consists of new alluvium. It stretches in a vast fertile plain abounding in morasses and swamps, intersected by rivers and water-courses. The rivers inundate the land from April to October, and gradually raise the level of the tract by their deposit of silt. The Gangetic Delta has already been thus raised above the general flood-level in many parts, but portions of it are still backward, where the deposition of silt is now going on. Higher up a river's course the deposit consists of sand and sandy clay, the finer particles of silt being naturally carried further down. It is hard to draw a clear line of separation between old and new alluvium, as flood-water often leaves a coating more or less thick upon the surface of the former, while the great, ever-shifting rivers often carry away masses of the old deposits, substituting new ones in their place. But on the whole the newer alluvium is the area of deposition, while the older alluvium is the area of denudation. The former is never red, and contains no limestone nodules or *kankar.*

The gneissic soil has been formed by the decomposition of highly-foliated crystalline rocks composed of quartz, felspar, and mica. The soil has been formed *in situ*, while alluvial soil is of course composed of transported particles washed down by the rivers. The gneissic tract in Bengal consists of high, undulating table-land fringed by hills, rocks, and extensive jungle, and it stands out in a sharp contrast to the alluvial area. The northern portion of the table-land is more open, and here much valuable rice-land has been obtained by a laborious terracing of the slopes. In Ranchi also, in the depressions lying between successive ridges of surface, there is a good deal of rice-cultivation. Maize, millets, oilseeds and pulses are grown in the uplands, but the crests of the ridges are very unfertile and barren.

9. Laterite soils are to be found sloping upwards towards the interior from underneath the old alluvium of Orissa, and also in Midnapore, Burdwan and Birbhum, and overlying part of the Chota Nagpur plateau. They consist of nodules of brown hæmatite and coarse quartz sand cemented together into a more or less coherent mass, but at times remaining in a loose, gravelly condition. They pass by various gradations into a sandy clay, with a few ferruginous nodules. As a rule these soils are very poor in lime and phosphoric acid, and the amounts of potash and nitrogen are also very low. The following table shows the distribution of the different types of soil and the chief crops of each according to the administrative divisions of the Province:—

Types of soil.	Chief crops.	Names of Divisions.
New alluvium	Winter paddy...	Chittagong.
	Autumn do. ...	Dacca.
	Jute, mustard ...	Presidency.
	Til, sugarcane, &c.	Rajshahi.
Old alluvium	Winter paddy	Patna.
	Maize, jowar and other millets.	Bhagalpur.
	Wheat, barley ...	Burdwan.
	Pulses, oilseeds ...	Orissa.
	Sugarcane, indigo, poppy	
Gneissic soil	Winter paddy ...	Chota Nagpur.
	Millets, oilseed, poppy, &c. ...	Tributary Mahals of Orissa.

10. The above is only a rough classification, for the administrative divisions do not exactly correspond with the geological formations. For instance the southern portions of the districts of Shahabad, Gaya, Patna and Bhagalpur, together with the entire district of the Sonthal Parganas, are more or less gneissic, while the Hooghly and Howrah districts in the Burdwan Division, and the Purnea and Malda districts in the Bhagalpur Division, belong really to the new alluvium. Again, there is a good deal of laterite soil in many of the districts of the Orissa, Chota Nagpur and Burdwan Divisions. It need hardly be said that the soil belonging to none of these types is uniform, but varies more or less from district to district and within the limits of the same district. The northern districts of the Presidency Division (*i.e.*, Murshidabad, Nadia and Jessore) together with some of the districts of North Bengal are more sandy than Khulna, the 24-Parganas and Backergunge, though all these districts are in the new alluvial tract. Again, North Bihar is more sandy than the districts south of the Ganges, though they all belong to the old alluvium.

CLIMATE.

Temperature.

11. Although the province of Bengal is situated almost entirely without the tropical zone, its climate is characteristically tropical. The chief feature of climatic conditions within the tropics is high temperature, and an inspection of a temperature chart for the earth's surface shows that isothermal lines receive over India a large displacement towards the north. The mean temperature for the whole year varies from 82° in the Cuttack district of Orissa to 75° in Chota Nagpur, the lower temperature in the latter case being in part due to the higher elevation of the stations, such as Hazaribagh, where the observations are taken. That of Calcutta and Patna is 78·5°, and Chittagong 77·2°. The variations of temperature from day to day, as well as season to season, are much less pronounced in the neighbourhood of the ocean, as compared with the northern districts which lie far inland and in close proximity to the Himalayas. The mean daily range at False Point is 13·8°, at Chittagong 15·3°, at Calcutta and Dacca 16°, while at Patna it is 20° and at Purnea 20·3°. The annual range of temperature at places near the Bengal coast varies from 15° to 19° and for places at distances from the coast this range increases with considerable rapidity. The difference between the highest and lowest mean monthly temperatures for an average year at Gaya is 28·4° and this may be taken as giving a fair idea of the range of temperature in the northern districts. In Chota Nagpur the higher level of the plateau introduces a cause operating towards a greater range, and so we find the difference between the mean temperature for the coldest and hottest months is 26°. In the same way the difference between the actually highest and lowest readings recorded up to the present date increases with the distance from the sea. The highest temperatures experienced in Calcutta in recent times are 108·2° in June 1901 and 106·6° in June 1888, while the lowest is 44·2° in January 1899. The extreme range of temperature, therefore, as determined from 50 years' experience is 64°. The greatest range of temperature, as might be expected, occurs in Central and South Bihar. The extreme range observed at Patna is 78° and at Gaya 76·2°. The range in South Bihar appears from these observations to be to that in South Bengal in the ratio of about 4 to 3.

12. The chief cause which brings about the increase of temperature is the increasing altitude of the sun and the consequent lengthening of the day, but this may be taken as operating equally over a limited area such as Bengal. The rise of temperature as the hot weather approaches is not, however, by any means, uniform, or contemporaneous at the various stations. Near the coast we find the temperature both for the day and night rising in January, while within less than a hundred miles from the coast the upward change is not established till February. After this it goes on rapidly in Lower Bengal, the greatest change being in March. In Bihar a rise of more than 10° takes place in the night temperatures during March and almost as much in April, but the days are only about 3° hotter in March and 10° hotter in April. This rapid warming by day in Lower Bengal during March is due to the strengthening of the southerly current from the Bay, and the similar change in Bihar in April is probably caused by the hot westerly winds blowing during the day. The nights are hottest in June in all parts, and

from this month onwards till January of the following year, except near the coast, minimum temperatures fall steadily, but with greatest rapidity during November and December. During the rains the temperature of the Chota Nagpur plateau falls more rapidly than that of any other part of Bengal. The total fall between May and October at Hazaribagh is more than twice as much as that at Berhampore, though the places are in the same latitude. This peculiarity is probably due to the greater cloudiness of the plateau during the day time and to the greater radiation at night, when the skies, even during the monsoon, are much freer from cloud than they are during the day time.

13. The high humidity of the atmosphere in Bengal, more especially in the eastern and southern districts, has become proverbial. If the term be used in reference to the quantity of vapour in the air, as estimated by its elastic force or pressure, the popular belief is justified by observation, but if it be used in the more common sense of relative humidity, that is, of the percentage of vapour present in the air in proportion to the amount which could saturate it at its actual temperature, the average annual humidity of Bengal is considerably lower than that of England. The following comparative table gives the mean vapour, elastic force and relative humidity of London and of the three Indian stations of Calcutta, Saugor Island and Patna for each month of the year, and the mean of the whole year. The data for London are taken from an essay on the climate of London by the late Professor Daniell, those for Calcutta, Saugor Island and Patna are taken from the five-day means published in the Indian Meteorological Memoirs, Vol. XIII (1902):— Humidity.

Mean elastic force of vapour measured in thousandths of an inch.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Year.
London	·245	·264	·280	·315	·340	·490	·534	·530	·468	·389	·310	·281	·376
Calcutta	·438	·521	·707	·854	·943	·973	·967	·964	·956	·831	·605	·440	·767
Saugor Island ...	·527	·633	·811	·928	1·009	1·014	·997	·990	·984	·878	·681	·523	·831
Patna	·357	·370	·398	·556	·764	·907	·970	·967	·923	·715	·502	·371	·650

Mean relative humidity (saturation=100).

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Year.
London	97	94	89	84	82	82	84	85	91	94	96	97	89
Calcutta	85	81	81	78	79	85	89	89	87	84	82	81	83
Saugor Island ...	90	87	83	80	81	85	88	89	88	86	87	88	86
Patna	77	67	49	51	64	77	86	87	82	74	71	75	72

The quantity of vapour present in the air near the earth's surface per cubic foot is approximately proportionate to its elastic force. The preceding tables show that the quantity of vapour in the air of Calcutta is more than twice as great as it is in that of London, whereas the relative humidity of the former is only equal to that of the latter during the first three months of the rains, which are amongst the driest months of a European climate. The tables for Saugor Island and Patna present similar results. Saugor Island is the most humid of all the Bengal stations at which meteorological observations have been taken continuously for years, as Patna, Gaya and Hazaribagh are the driest. The former represents the sea-face of the Sundarbans, whilst the latter represents Central and Southern Bihar and the plateau of Chota Nagpur.

14. The absolute humidity of the atmosphere is greatest on the coast of Orissa and the Sundarbans, and diminishes inland as the distance from the sea increases. In the cold weather and spring months this decrease is rapid everywhere except in Eastern Bengal. During the hot weather months the proportion of vapour to dry air increases steadily and rapidly in all that part of Bengal in

which the hot westerly winds are not a regular phenomenon of the season, that is to say, on the Gangetic delta in Eastern Bengal and on the maritime plain of Orissa; but on the high ground further west, and in Bihar, as well as generally in the United Provinces, its increase is much slower up to May or June, and it then rises rapidly almost to an equality with that of the maritime region. This is clearly traceable to the winds, since in the former region winds from the sea predominate throughout the hot season, mitigating its temperature indeed but, at the same time, rendering the atmosphere damper and producing, when the air is calm, that oppressive feeling of sultriness which is so trying to persons accustomed to the atmosphere of Bihar and the North-West.

Rainfall.

15. The monsoon current while over the water-surface of the Bay flows uniformly, and probably with little ascensional motion and loss of moisture except during disturbed weather. After crossing the coast, the influence of the rougher land-surface leads to irregularities in the air-motion, especially at the lower levels. These irregularities give rise to eddies, which are accompanied by ascending currents and the increased rainfall observed near the coast. The sloping surface of the hills, on the other hand, causes more directly the same upward motion and the rapid increase of rainfall in the districts of East and North Bengal.

The districts of Eastern Bengal and the Himalayan Terai are those of the heaviest rainfall. Their average annual fall in many cases is not under 100 inches, and on the exposed hill flanks, and at their foot, even this large amount is surpassed. Thus, Darjeeling has an average amount of rainfall of 121 inches, and Buxa Fort of 208 inches (the average of 40 and 31 years, respectively). The rainfall is also higher near the coast than on the plains further inland. Thus, Saugor Island has an average of 73 inches, and Calcutta of 61 inches, False Point of 69 inches, and Cuttack of 60 inches.

The lowest rainfall in the provinces under the Bengal Government is that of the Central and Southern portions of Bihar, including the Shahabad, Gaya and Patna districts, where the annual fall very slightly exceeds 41 inches. Of the 366 rainfall-reporting stations in Bengal, only Chapra has a rainfall of less than 41 inches. North of the Ganges the rainfall increases gradually up to the Himalayas, and on the south up to the high ridge of forest-clad country which is drained by the Sone, the Damuda and their tributaries. In this tract, where the monsoon winds from the opposite coasts of India meet, the annual rainfall of the few stations that have hitherto furnished returns ranges between 45 and 60 inches.

16. By far the greater part of the rainfall of Bengal occurs between the months of June and October. The months of November and December are occasionally rainless, and such rain as falls is almost invariably due to the northward movement of cyclonic storms from the extreme south of the Bay. From about the end of December, when the northerly trade wind has become established, inland and monsoon conditions have ceased in the south of the Bay, and cold season storms commence. These are due to shallow depressions which originate in the north-west, and moving eastward cross the Province with an average frequency of about once a fortnight. During their passage they cause general cloudy weather and light rainfall, which is almost invariably unaccompanied by thunder. These depressions continue during the hot weather months, but after the southerly winds have commenced thunderstorms are as frequent a feature as they are the reverse in January and February. At the end of January or the beginning of February local sea breezes commence on the Orissa and neighbouring Bengal coasts. They increase in force and extend their influence further inland with the increasing temperature of the hot weather months. There occur occasionally during the hot weather months, and with greater frequency as the season advances, periods of atmospheric disturbance, the most important feature of which is the occurrence of local hot weather storms, usually called "nor'-westers." These thunderstorms are generally accompanied by heavy rain showers and occasionally, early in the season, by hail. The rainfall gradually increases from February to May. In the beginning of June the local sea breezes are replaced by the steadier sea winds of the south-west monsoon. Between the months of June and November rain is abundant in every part of the Province, and is due mainly to winds advancing from the Bay of Bengal. When the pressure distribution characteristic of the

hot season and the rains have become well established, a very important feature is found in the low pressure area which extends from the north-west angle of the Bay in a north-westerly direction. This trough of low pressure is liable to a considerable amount of displacement both to the north and south, but chiefly the former. It is towards the area over which it lies that the monsoon current generally tends, and it therefore divides Northern India into two sections, the one to the north of the trough receiving its rainfall from the Bay of Bengal current, and that to the south from the western current. In addition to this the storms which form near the head of the Bay during the rainy season generally move along the trough. It may be inferred from the fact that striking exceptions to this westerly movement along the trough of low pressure can be quoted that other factors, at present unknown but probably connected with the upper layers of the atmosphere, contribute to the determination of the line of advance of cyclonic disturbances. An interesting example is the depression in the first week of September 1901. It will be seen that the distribution of rainfall, especially in the western districts of Bengal, depends on the position of this low pressure area. When displaced to the north the area over which the Bay of Bengal current flows is less and the rainfall greater, while displacement to the south has an opposite effect. At times the displacement is maintained for a considerable period, and during these intervals the result on the rainfall distribution is readily traceable. It is probably owing to these causes that the rainfall of Central Bengal, including nearly the whole of the districts of Nadia, Murshidabad and Jessore, for the greater part of the rains is less than that of any other part of the Province excluding Bihar, and is even slightly less in the month of July in these districts than it is in the western and driest districts of Bihar. The south-west monsoon rains, that is, the rains proper, usually commence in the end of the second week of June on the Bengal coast, and in the third or fourth week in Bihar.

In Calcutta the largest annual rainfall on record is that of 1871, when it amounted to 97·47 inches, and the smallest during the same period of 73 years is that of 1895, when the registered total fall was only 39·38 inches. The heaviest rainfall at Calcutta in 24 hours is 14·53 inches recorded at 8 A.M. on 20th September 1900; and in two consecutive days, viz., 20th and 21st September 1900, it is 25·36 inches.

17. One of the most remarkable features of the rainfall of Bengal is the occasional occurrence during the rains of excessive local precipitation during periods which rarely exceed 24 hours in length. These appear to occur chiefly in the plains near the foot of the Himalayas. The following are two of the more remarkable examples on record. On the 13th of September 1879 a total rainfall of 35·38 inches was registered at Purnea for the previous 24 hours, whilst at the neighbouring stations of Madhupur, Bhagalpur, Araria and Kishanganj (the two latter in the Purnea district) the rainfall for the same period was 9·5 inches, 1·35 inches, 2·58 inches and ·89 inch, respectively. On the 3rd of October 1882, 22·02 inches were registered at Gopalganj in the Saran district for the 24 hours preceding 6 P.M. of that day. The amount recorded for the same period at the five nearest neighbouring rainfall-reporting stations Bettiah, Motihari, Muzaffarpur, Chapra and Siwan, was 11·8 inches, 4·62 inches, 1·62 inches, 2·93 inches and 8·48 inches, respectively. These excessive rainfalls were both due to local disturbances confined to very limited areas, and not to any general cyclonic disturbance passing over the district.

Another cause of very heavy rainfall in Bengal is the passage of cyclonic storms which originate in the Bay of Bengal, travel landwards and advance across the coast. The rainfall on these occasions is much more general and widely distributed than in the case of local disturbances already referred to. Rainfall exceeding 15 inches in 24 hours is not uncommon at such times in Bengal.

Clouds.

18. Except at the hill stations and in the immediate neighbourhood of the hills, the average proportion of cloud-covered sky varies between one-third and one-half of the whole. At Darjeeling, on an average, the proportion of clouded sky to clear sky is as 2 to 1. In Lower Bengal generally it is about 1 to 2 being, however, rather higher on the coast. December and January are, on the whole, the brightest months of the year, but November, February and March are almost equally serene. June, July and August are the months of greatest

obscurity. In the former months the proportion of cloud is, on an average, from 10 to 15 per cent., in the latter months from 65 to 85 per cent.

The Monsoons.

19. The wind system of Bengal is so often referred to as a familiar illustration of the monsoons that it might seem almost superfluous to redescribe a subject which is treated of in every text-book on meteorology. But it appears from recent investigations that, however well known at sea, the character and origin of the monsoons on land have been very generally misunderstood. The monsoons are not two undivided currents flowing to and from Central Asia during about equal periods of the year, but appear rather to consist at each period of at least two principal currents, —the one tending to or from Northern India, the other to or from the interior of China, and there are probably other minor currents originating or terminating at other centres. The Indian branch of the winter monsoon originates in the plains of the Punjab, the Gangetic Valley, the uplands of Central India, and also in Upper Assam, and blows as a very gentle wind towards the two great Bays that wash the East and West Coast of the Peninsula. During this season the southerly wind prevails steadily on the Himalayas at heights above 6,000 or 8,000 feet, descending lower on the western than on the central part of the range. This appears to be the upper returned current of the winter monsoon, and corresponds to the anti-trade of the trade wind region. It descends on the plains of Upper India where the atmosphere is characteristically calm at this season, and brings the winter rains, on which the *rabi* crops depend. It is less frequently felt in Lower Bengal, where the wind is variable from the north and north-west, but to the eastwards in Cachar, southerly winds are very prevalent at the winter season. In Northern India the two branches of the northerly monsoon appear to diverge towards the opposite coasts from a line characterized by a ridge of higher mean barometric pressure which passes from the Punjab through Benares to Cuttack. This monsoon ceases on the coast line of Bengal in the month of February, when, in the lower atmosphere, sea winds set in. At first these are restricted to the immediate neighbourhood of the coast, but as the season advances and the heat of the interior plains rises under the influence of the returning sun, they penetrate further and further inland, and are drawn from greater distances at sea. In the interior of India the wind becomes more westerly, and blows towards Lower Bengal and Chota Nagpur, not as a steady current, but as day winds, which in April and May are highly heated by the parched and burning soil, and constitute the well-known hot winds of those months. Like the thunderstorms of Europe and the dust-storms of the Punjab, they are due to convection currents, and in Bengal owe their prevailing movement from the west or north-west quarter to the strength of the land wind, which maintains its course in the upper atmosphere above the opposite sea wind, which is felt on the land surface. At this time the north-west wind continues to blow unsteadily in the south of the Bay, but calms are not unfrequent, and it is not till June that the southerly winds of the Bay become continuous with the south-east trades of the South Indian Ocean, and that the south-west monsoon, properly so-called, sets in over India. This blows from both coasts, and the two branches meet along a line which almost coincides with the southern margin of the Gangetic Plain. Both tend towards the Punjab, the region of the greatest heat at this season, and becoming gradually drained of their vapour in their passage over the land, that which remains on their reaching the plains of that Province suffices only to afford a scanty rainfall inadequate to mitigate the temperature, and only rendering the heat more oppressive by increasing the relative humidity and diminishing the evaporative power of the air.

Atmospheric pressure.

20. As an element of climate, apart from its secondary effects on the winds and consequently on the humidity, rainfall, &c., the pressure of the atmosphere is, as far as is known at present, of subordinate importance. In Bengal, as in most tropical countries, its variation, except during the passage of cyclones, is small, scarcely amounting to an inch on the extremes of the year. The average pressure of the air in Calcutta (21 feet above sea level) is equal to that of a column of mercury at the freezing point 29·830 inches in height. It is highest in December, when the mean pressure similarly estimated amounts to 30·073 inches, and lowest in July, when it averages 29·569 inches.

21. The storms prevalent in Bengal are of two classes—first, those of the hot weather, already noticed, which are formed over the land and are of the nature of convection currents like the summer storms of Europe, and second, those more extensive and destructive storms that originate over the Bay of Bengal, and are occasionally exceedingly violent at the changes of the monsoons. These latter have received the distinctive name of cyclones, and the name is perhaps as good as any other, since in them a vorticose motion of the wind is a strongly marked characteristic and one of great practical importance, but it is, by no means, peculiar to these storms, since it may frequently be observed in a slight degree in ordinary nor'westers and tornadoes, which are apparently merely a severe form of the nor'wester, and differ from a typical cyclone only in their originating over the land, in their inferior size, and in their shorter duration. The pressure of the wind in tornadoes, and even in ordinary nor'-westers, is sometimes comparable with that of cyclones, and within a limited area the former are not less destructive. There is an important difference in the character of the surface winds in these two forms of land storm. In the nor'wester the violent wind usually precedes the storm blowing outwards, and being in fact a descending current. The centripetal currents which feed the storms are not felt at the ground surface, though they may frequently be traced in the motion of the lower clouds. In the tornado, on the other hand, as in the true cyclone, the violent surface winds are centripetal and vorticose. Storms.

22. Cyclones of the Bay of Bengal are a frequent feature of the whole period during which the south-west moist monsoon current prevails over any considerable portion of it. They are all marked by the same features of vorticose air motion, progressive advance from the interior of the Bay towards the coast, and very heavy rainfall over and near the area of cyclonic disturbance. They, however, differ very considerably in extent and intensity. Those which occur in the rains proper (*i.e.*, the months of June, July, August, and September) are generally small in extent, the barometric depression at the centre seldom exceeding half an inch, and the air motion violent but rarely of hurricane force. The most destructive cyclones are those which are occasionally generated during the transition periods antecedent and subsequent to the full establishment and prevalence of the south-west monsoon in Northern India, that is, during the months of April and May, October and November. Cyclones.

23. The most destructive cyclones that have passed over Bengal have been generated during the transition periods. These, however, are of exceptional occurrence as compared with the storms of the rains proper. The most striking features in these rare cyclones are the great barometric depression in the centre, and the magnitude of the storm area. These two causes produce a large accumulation of water at and near the centre, which progresses with the storm and gives rise to a destructive storm-wave when the centre reaches a gradually shelving coast. In the Calcutta cyclone of October 1864 the storm-wave inundated the low land lying on each side of the Hooghly, and drowned 48,000 people. Even this was surpassed by the storm-wave which accompanied the Backergunge cyclone of October 1876, when at least 100,000 people lost their lives during the inundation. The False Point cyclone of September 1885 was peculiar in two respects. It occurred during the monsoon months, but was of unusual severity though of very narrow area, and was accompanied by a storm-wave which destroyed the station, the water rising to a height of about 22 feet above mean sea level. The barometer fell to 27·135″ at False Point Lighthouse, a reading unprecedented at the level of the sea. The information in the following table regarding cyclones and cyclonic storms is taken from Mr. Eliot's handbook of Cyclonic storms in the Bay of Bengal between the years 1737 and 1899 :—

Month.	Severe cyclones during the period 1737—1899.	Less severe cyclonic storms during the period 1877—1899.	Month.	Severe cyclones during the period 1737—1899.	Less severe cyclonic storms during the period 1877—1899.
January ...	—	—	July ...	5	35
February ...	—	—	August ...	3	31
March ...	—	—	September ...	12	34
April ...	8	1	October ...	26	19
May ...	23	5	November ...	29	5
June ...	9	21	December ...	7	2

Of these 122 severe storms, 49 have been felt in Bengal, or on its coast, and all between the months of April and November inclusive. Their course is usually northwards across the Bengal coast, or north-west across the Orissa coast.

The motion of the wind is in an involute spiral, revolving in a direction opposite to that of the hands of a clock, as in all cyclonic storms in the northern hemisphere. The greatest pressure of the wind in these storms has yet to be ascertained. The highest that has been registered in Calcutta by an Osler's anemometer was 50lbs. to the square foot, but this was in a storm of no remarkable violence, and one which did but little injury in Calcutta. The centre of the storm at the time was passing some 15 miles to the east of the city, and the barometer stood at 28·712 inches. In the far more severe storms of the 2nd November 1867 and the 5th October 1864, the anemometer was blown away under a pressure of 36lbs. to the square foot, so that no register of their maximum force was obtained.

CHIEF STAPLES.

Rice.

24. Rice has been a valued food-crop in India from the earliest times, the name by which it is generally known in Bengal, viz., dhan or *dhanya*, signifying in Sanskrit "the supporter or nourisher of mankind." At the present day it is widely cultivated throughout India, and in Lower Bengal it forms the chief article of human food. In Bihar and in Chota Nagpur the food of the masses includes the grain of *rabi* crops, such as wheat, barley and pulses, and that of *bhadoi* crops, such as Indian-corn and millets. The coarse early rice is mainly eaten by the poorer classes, while the richer classes eat the finer late rices. Pulses, fish, vegetables, oil, salt, spices and other condiments are added to give rice a relish. The nitrogenous nutritive element which exists in small quantities in rice is supplied to a great extent by the pulses which are consumed with it.

According to the best source of information available in the Lower Provinces, which cannot be said to claim any strict accuracy, the normal areas cultivated with rice may be estimated roughly at 38,000,000 acres. The gross area of these Provinces being in round numbers 97,000,000 acres, and the total cultivated area being estimated at 57½ million acres, it will be seen that the rice area comprises about 39 per cent. of the gross area and 66 per cent. of the actual cropped area.

25. There are innumerable varieties of rice familiar to cultivators under distinctive names, and possessing particular properties which make their cultivation suitable to particular localities. In these Provinces these may all be referred to three main classes according to the land in which they are grown, the season of the year when they are reaped, and the period taken in coming to maturity. Those classes are (1) the aus, or early rice crop, (2) the aman or winter rice crop and (3) the boro or spring rice crop.

Aus or early autumn rice (so called from the Sanskrit *asu* early) is grown both on high lands which are above inundation level, and in the eastern districts on low lands with two or three feet of water on them. After the harvesting of the *rabi* crop, the land is well ploughed and then the seed for the aus crop is sown broadcast generally with the first showers of rains in April and May, and the crop is harvested during the months of July, August and September. It is also sown in some parts of East Bengal as early as March. Aus rice requires less water than the other two main classes of rice, but at the same time is more dependent on the season and requires more attention in its cultivation. Early rice occupies the land for a comparatively short time, some varieties being ready for the sickle in 60 days, and this allows the land to be cultivated also with cold-weather crops. Aus rice is, as a rule, broadcasted, but it is occasionally transplanted in certain districts, especially in parts of Eastern and Central Bengal. Its outturn is generally less than that of aman, and its price lower in the market. It is very useful in supplying a food-grain and fodder at a time of the year when the stock of aman rice of the previous year is approaching exhaustion. The grain of aus rice is coarse and rather difficult to digest, and is eaten generally by the poorer classes.

Aman rice includes the largest number of varieties grown, and occupies the main portion of the rice area of these Provinces. The varieties of aman differ much from each other in the fineness of the grain, and in their colour and

fragrance. The crop, however, is broadly divided into two principal kinds, viz., (*a*) the early or *chota aman*, which is transplanted and is also known as *ropa*, or *rooya dhan*, and (*b*) the late or *bora aman*, which is generally broadcasted and which goes also by the name of *boona dhan*. This latter variety is occasionally transplanted. The finer varieties of rice, which are eaten by the well-to-do classes and which are exported, are obtained from *ropa dhan*. The seed is first sown in moderately high nurseries, and when the seedlings have attained a height of nine to eighteen inches, they are transplanted into low moist lands where rain water has collected, and which has been previously carefully prepared by repeated ploughings. The first of these ploughings is, as a rule, not given till the first showers of rainfall in April and May. This kind of rice does not require as much water as *boro rice*, and will grow well in knee-deep water. In fact it is often transplanted into aus dhan lands. It is sown generally in April or May, transplanted from June to August, and reaped in November or December and some times even in January. In some parts of Bengal this rice is transplanted twice, first into high dry land which is well manured and weeded, and then retransplanted into lower wet lands. This practice is said to render the plants hardier.

Boro aman includes the coarser varieties of rice which are regarded by the Hindus as sacred. This kind of rice grows generally in marshy and low-lying lands where the seed is generally broadcasted, though at times seedlings are transplanted when the land is not too low-lying for this operation. The land receives its first two or three ploughings about the end of January or the beginning of February. These ploughings are continued at intervals up to the beginning of the early rains, when the seed is sown broadcast. The after-treatment of the crop is similar to that of the aus crop. It is harvested in December and January. Of all kinds of rice, this has the longest stem and the most rapid growth. The stems attain a length of ten to twenty feet, increasing in height with the rise of water, and are sometimes known to shoot up twelve inches in twenty-four hours as the flood water rises. Sudden flooding proves destructive to the crop by overtopping the plants or uprooting them when the current is strong. Some species, however, are known to bear submersion for seven or eight days, if the flood water be clear. If the water be foul, the submerged crop dies in a day or two.

In some districts it is customary to grow certain species of *aman* and *aus* together. The advantage of this practice is that should one crop fail the raiyat can fall back on the other. In such cultivation the land is prepared in the same way as *aus* paddy land, but it is sown with a mixture of *aus* and *aman* seed, the proportion being two-thirds of the former and one-third of the latter. The *aus* crop is generally reaped at the end of July and the *aman* in the month of December.

The third main class of rice is the *boro* or spring rice, which is generally coarse or hard and less nutritious than the other varieties, and, like *aus*, is consumed by the poorer classes. It is a three-month crop cultivated on *chars*, edges of *jhils*, canals and tanks and marshy soft lands. The crop is hardy and can be grown in eight or ten feet of water, and can admirably resist river currents. Muddy soil, where water to the depth of two to four feet accumulates at the time of high tide, is best adapted for *boro* paddy. It is sown during the winter months and is harvested before the floods of the rainy season. There are two systems of cultivation of *boro* paddy, viz:—(1) transplanted or *rooa*, and broad-casted or *lepi*. In the former case the seed is sown in a seed-bed generally from October to January and transplanted from December to February. In the latter the seed is at once sown on the deep muddy lands and plastered over by means of a plantain stem, and hence called *lepi*. Before sowing the seed is soaked for 24 hours in a closed earthen pot, which helps sprouting. The *lepi* sowing is done on the river-beds when the water is at its lowest level. It may be also cultivated as a rain crop on comparatively dry lands with the aid of artificial irrigation, when it is sown about the end of May, transplanted in July and August, and reaped by the end of October.

Boro is often cultivated together with a kind of rice known as *raida* or *bhashanaranga*. The seed is mixed in the proportion of one part of *raida* to five to nine parts of *boro*, and is then sown in the nursery, generally of soft

earth, about the end of October. The seedlings of both kinds are then transplanted in the *bils*. The *bora* paddy is generally cut in April, when with it the tops of the *raido* paddy, which is yet but half-grown, are taken off. Although thus shorn during the harvesting of *boro*, the *raida* plants do not suffer in any way, and come to maturity in September and October, when the crop is cut.

26. The work of harvesting is generally done by men, but in many parts of Bengal, especially among the poorer raiyats, women also assist in the harvest. In Bihar and Chota Nagpur transplantation is usually done by women on account of a superstition that the crop would fail if transplanted by men. When the plants have not attained a good length they are cut at some distance from the ground, so that a large portion of stubble may be left to be fed off by cattle. When, however, the stems are sufficiently long to be made into bundles of straw, they are cut close to the roots. When the stalks are under water and are useless, the ears alone are cut off. The crop after being cut is carried home either on the heads of reapers or in carts or by *banghis*, and often by boat. The mode of separating the grain is to tread it out by cattle or men on a threshing-floor, or to beat it out by hand on a plank. The winnowing is done by means of a basket held over the head, from which the paddy grains are allowed to fall. The lighter chaff is blown away by the wind and the clean grains fall to the ground. Husking is done with a wooden lever called the *dhenki* or with *ukharimusar*, which is worked by the women of the household When the paddy has been threshed, some of it is sold to pay the rent, some is given to the money-lender in clearance of the debt of the raiyat, the rest being stored for the use of the raiyat. The grain is stored either in large baskets, in stacks, or in godowns. The baskets which are used by the poorer cultivators are of a roughly cylindrical shape, and are plastered on the inside with cowdung and mud in order to keep them air and water-tight. Wealthier villagers, who carry on a regular trade in rice, store their paddy in circular stacks, or in houses constructed of wood with thatched roofs and mud walls.

27. In the absence of any special agency for the collection of agricultural statistics in Bengal, the average outturn of rice per acre cannot be stated with accuracy. From the best sources of information available and taking into consideration estimates formed from enquiry, and in some cases from statistics of actual weighments, the outturn of cleaned rice for a number of years and for all classes of lands has been estimated as 10 maunds for early rice and 15 maunds for late rice.

Rice in Bengal is ordinarily husked by the cultivators before sale, except that portion which is at once sold to pay the rent. After payment of the rent the members of the cultivator's family convert the paddy into rice: the employment of hired labour for this purpose is uncommon. The cold-weather paddy may be purchased during December and January at cheap rates, but after that the raiyat will not sell his paddy in any large quantity, and he can only be induced to do so on being offered a price almost equal to the value of rice. A maund of paddy yields about 25 seers of cleaned rice.

The districts of the whole of Bengal Proper, or the great alluvial and deltaic plain between the Himalayas and the Bay of Bengal and the Province of Orissa,—a level area of nearly one hundred thousand square miles, unbroken by a single hill, rich in black mould, and of boundless reproductive fertility, subject to recurrent inundation, and enjoying natural facilities such as no other country in the world possesses for internal commerce and irrigation,—constitute the great rice-producing area of Northern India, which is ordinarily much more than self-supporting. The surplus produce of this area finds its way, generally speaking, to three destinations, from which the rice-trading operations of Bengal are conducted, viz., first, to Calcutta, to feed the town population and also for foreign exportation; secondly, to Bihar and the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, where the demand for rice is always in excess of the local supply; thirdly, to Chittagong, which is the centre of a considerable export trade by sea.

Wheat.

28. Wheat forms an important food-staple in Bihar, and there is a large surplus production which finds its way into Calcutta from the districts of the Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions. Bhagalpur is the chief wheat-producing

district in Bihar, and next comes Gaya. In Bengal wheat is not one of the chief articles of consumption, the only districts from which it is exported in any appreciable quantity being Birbhum, Nadia and Murshidabad. In Chota Nagpur the principal wheat-growing districts are Hazaribagh, Palamau and Manbhum. The normal area under wheat in these Provinces has been estimated at about 1½ million acres, and the rates of outturn have been taken as 12 maunds to the acre for the Bihar districts, 10½ maunds for the Bengal districts, and 5½ maunds for Chota Nagpur. The average outturn depends very much on the extent to which the crop is irrigated and manured. On the whole, it seems probable that the estimate of outturn for Bihar and Bengal just cited is too high, and that the average yield of wheat to the acre in these Provinces does not exceed the yield of 10 bushels, or say 8 maunds, which is generally cited for all India.

Many varieties of wheat-grains are grown in these Provinces. The four principal kinds known to the trade, and which are exported from Calcutta, are:—

No. 1 club, containing 75 per cent. of white and 25 of red.
No. 2 club, containing 65 per cent. of white and 35 of red.
No. 3 hard red.
No. 4 soft red.

No. 1 club is a very superior soft white grain which is extensively grown in the southern part of the subdivisions of Buxar and Sasaram, and in the district of Shahabad, and is equal to the best Delhi or Muzaffarnagar wheat. Bhagalpur grows hard and soft red, while Bengal principally yields soft red only, a grain of very inferior quality.

Marua—Kodo.

29. *Marua* and *kodo* are both cheaper than rice, and are much eaten by the lower classes. *Kodo* is a millet of the size of a canary seed. Each plant has a longish ear, longer and thicker than an ear of corn, and containing about an egg-cup full of grain. It is eaten boiled like rice, or sometimes in *chapatis*. The crop is popular with the poorer classes, as it can be readily grown on inferior soil, but the grain is not among the most nutritious. *Marua* is a very cognate grain to *kodo*, but it grows in bushy tufts and not in gracefully pending ears as *kodo* does. It is an important crop in Bihar and in the Chota Nagpur Division. The normal acreage in the whole Province is estimated at 1,057,000 acres and the outturn at 10 maunds per acre. It may be either sown broadcasted or transplanted. Unlike other cereals it can wait for some time to be reaped, as the grains adhere closely to the ear and do not fall off readily. The ears are reaped by the sickle, and the straw is left on the ground to be eaten off by cattle or to be used as fuel. The grain is generally converted into flour, which is used for making bread among the lower classes. It is also eaten boiled in water like rice, with which it is sometimes mixed before boiling.

Barley.

30. The total area sown in barley in Bengal is estimated at 1,582,000 acres, and the normal yield is about 10¾ maunds per acre. It is an important crop in Bihar, but outside that Province it is unimportant. The export trade in barley is small. The chief seat of barley cultivation is in South Bihar, where it forms one of the cheapest food crops. In North Bihar and in the Bhagalpur Division it possesses less importance. The cultivation of barley diminishes gradually as we proceed towards the east and south, and it is practically not cultivated in the easternmost districts of Bengal Proper and in Orissa. Like wheat and most *rabi* crops, it is grown on uplands which have lain fallow during the rains, or on high-lying paddy lands which have been cropped with the early varieties of paddy. The grain is ground into a coarse meal and made into *chapatis*, either alone or with wheat-meal, or mixed with *kerao*, *khesari* or other *dal*. Sometimes it is also mixed with Indian-corn. It is also parched and ground into coarse flour. It is eaten in the same state as it comes from the grindstone, having been cooked in the drying. A little salt is generally added, and the preparation is eaten with garlic, onions or chillies. Sometimes *gur* or coarse sugar is used instead of salt. Barley is also sometimes boiled like rice.

Maize.

31. *Makai*, maize, or Indian corn is cultivated in these Provinces chiefly in the districts of Bihar, in the Chota Nagpur Division and in Darjeeling. It is cheaper than wheat or barley, but is dearer than *marua* and other inferior millets. It is prepared and eaten like barley. In Patna and Shahabad maize is consumed even more than barley by the labouring classes. The total area sown with Indian-corn in this Province is estimated at about 2,106,000 acres, and the yield at 10 maunds per acre. The ears when green are often cut and roasted.

China and kaon.

32. In Bihar and Chota Nagpur the millets *china* and *kaon* are largely cultivated and consumed. They are grown both on high and low lands. When raised after the rains, *kaon* is reaped in March and April, but it is sometimes sown in June and cut in August, September or October. *China* may be sown almost at any season. These grains are boiled in water like rice, and are sometimes eaten with milk and coarse sugar. The cultivators of East Bengal generally cook *china* or *kaon* with rice, the proportion being three-fourths or more of the latter and one-fourth or less of the former. *Bhura* is a coarse grain seed which is eaten by the poorer classes.

Dal.

33. Pulses or *dál* are a most important food staple throughout the whole of these Provinces. The principal pulses are known as *matar*, *khesari*, *mushuri*, *maskalai*, *mung*, *but or chola*, and *arhar*. All these, except the last, are sown after the cessation of the rains, and reaped in the cold weather, and are extensively cultivated. *Maskalai* and *mung* are also grown as *bhadoi* crops, being sown in May and June and harvested in August and September.

There are two varieties of *arhar*, one of which is harvested in December and January and the other in April. The seed is generally sown at the same time as *aus dhan*, and very often in the same fields. It is a hardy crop and will grow on almost any soil. The stalks are woody and are generally used as fuel. The *bhusa* and husks are given to cattle as fodder. Pulses are largely exported eastwards from the western districts of Bihar and elsewhere.

Vegetables.

34. Either in a cooked or raw state, vegetables (*tarkari*) almost invariably form a part of the food of the people of these Provinces. The most common and important vegetable is the egg-plant, *brinjal* or *baigan*, which yields two crops in the year. This vegetable is cultivated in almost every garden. Raiyats, such as the caste of Pooras, who earn a livelihood by the sale of vegetables, set apart whole plots of land for its cultivation. *Kumra*, or the *belattee kumra* as it is called, comes next in order of importance. The creepers of this gourd may be found in Bengal in nearly every house, either climbing on the thatched roof or trailing on bamboo stages made for the purpose. There are an infinite variety of gourds, tuberous roots and other vegetables which are consumed under the general denomination of *tarkari*. Cauliflower (*phul kobi*) and cabbage (*kobi*) are common; garlic (*roshun*), radishes (*mula*), spinach (*sag*) of sorts, and onions (*piyaj*) are universal. The raiyat's vegetable garden is always near and about his homestead.

Potatoes.

35. The cultivation of the potato was first introduced into Bengal by the English towards the close of the eighteenth century. There was a strong prejudice against it for a long time as an article of food, especially among the orthodox Brahmans, but now it is eaten by all who can afford to purchase it. The area under potatoes is considerable in Bihar. In Bengal the chief potato-growing districts are Hooghly, Burdwan, Rangpur, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling. In Hooghly and Burdwan the cultivation is carried on very carefully in old beds of rivers, which have either changed their course or have altogether dried up. Artificial irrigation is very necessary for this crop, the raiyats in Bengal generally obtaining water from canals, tanks or *jhils*. In Bihar, where labour is cheap and water can be had at a reasonable depth, irrigation from wells is generally adopted. In Darjeeling the introduction of this staple proved very successful at first. Darjeeling potatoes were remarkable for their size, and were considered far superior in quality to the potatoes grown in the plains. A large quantity was, therefore, raised for exportation. The appearance of European potato blight, however, among the crops about twenty years ago has well-nigh ruined potato-cultivation at Darjeeling. An outturn of four times the seed sown is now considered a fair one, while in Hooghly and Burdwan 12 to 16-folds the seed

sown are ordinarily harvested. The exports of potatoes on the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway fell from 14,488 maunds in 1884 to 4,803 maunds in 1888; and at the present day there is no export, although efforts are being made to re-establish the cultivation. Although a large quantity of the Darjeeling potatoes came to the Calcutta market for sale as an article of food, none were used as seed. The potatoes imported from Darjeeling to Bihar for seed purposes come from Nepal. Within the last fifteen years, however, two kinds of hill potatoes, viz., Naini Tal potatoes from the Kumaon Hills in the United Provinces and Cherrapunji potatoes from the Khasia Hills in Assam, have been largely imported into Bengal for seed purposes, finding a ready market in Calcutta and in the marts of Hooghly and Burdwan. Both these varieties command a ready sale for consumption in Bengal. In recent years Amballa potatoes, which resemble the Naini Tal variety in quality, have also been imported into Calcutta in considerable quantities. But most of the Hill potatoes are infected, and should be used as seed with caution. The potato blight is not unknown in Patna, which is the most important mart for seed-potatoes in this Province. It first appeared there in 1884. Serious damage was caused last year to the potato crop in Hooghly by the blight. The outturn decreased in consequence by about 50 per cent.

Condiments.

36. The raiyat seasons his food with a great variety of condiments. Amongst a community addicted to fish, turmeric (*huldi*) is extensively used in curries and in all sorts of vegetable and animal food. Ginger (*adruk*) is also eaten with animal food, and is sold as medicine. Coriander (*dhania*), black cummin (*randhuni*), and aniseed (*joan, mouri*) are grown in small quantities for local consumption. Chillies (*lonka morich* or *jhal*) are cultivated in the western districts of the Province, and in large quantities in the Presidency, Rajshahi and Dacca Divisions. They are also largely grown as cold-weather crops in the Nadia district and in the south of Jessore. The *pipul* or black pepper is a condiment generally used as medicine which is only cultivated in the northern parts of Jessore. Elsewhere in Bengal it grows wild during the rainy season. The creeper is planted in the beginning of the rains, and as it grows in the shade the seeds of the stout *dhunecha* hemp plants are sown near to it to afford shelter as they grow.

Pan.

37. *Pan* or betel leaf is grown to a more or less extent in almost every district of Bengal. It is a creeper, and is cultivated in gardens which are styled *boroj*. This plant is generally cultivated by a special caste called *Barai* or *Barui*. The crop is sown on high land, free from inundation. There are several varieties grown in Bengal, differing in the size, colour and flavour of the leaves, the most highly scented of which is known as Kapur Kant, having an odour like that of camphor. The area under this last variety, however, is very limited as it is grown very seldom for sale, being chiefly employed in religious ceremonies. The first green leaves of pan, especially those plucked in the early spring, are said to be preferred. The cultivation of the plant requires constant care, but is highly remunerative. A garden lasts for five to twenty years.

Betel-nut.

38. The *supari* or betel-nut is common in Eastern Bengal, especially in Noakhali, Tippera, Backergunge and Dacca: and its cultivation is fairly profitable. It bears fruit in the eighth year, and is most productive from that time to the sixteenth year, when the produce falls off. The nuts are gathered in November.

Fruits.

39. Among the cultivated fruits are the following:—Plantain, mango, pine-apple, jack, guava, custard-apple, lichee and several varieties of fig and melon. Many parts of Eastern Bengal are studded with cocoanut plantations. The mangoes of Darbhanga and Malda enjoy a high reputation.

Jute.

40. From an early period jute (*pat* or *koshta*) has been cultivated in Bengal and manufactured into gunny-bags for the packing of articles exported from the country. But it is only of recent years that the cultivation has been large, and the export of the raw material from India is of modern date. In the period of five years, from 1828 to 1833, the average annual exportation of jute from Calcutta was only 11,800 cwt.; from 1838 to 1843, 117,047 cwt.; from 1848 to 1853, 439,350 cwt.; and from 1858 to 1863 the average was 969,724 cwt. In the last thirty years the export has increased enormously.

During the past ten years the export of raw jute from Calcutta by sea has been as follows:—

Year.	Cwt.	Equivalent in maunds.	Rs.
1892-93 ...	9,584,964	1,30,46,201	7,19,87,027
1893-94 ...	8,001,619	1,08,91,092	7,93,00,065
1894-95 ...	12,222,684	1,66,36,431	9,89,93,159
1895-96 ...	11,394,701	1,55,09,454	9,30,57,066
1896-97 ...	10,827,828	1,47,37,877	9,96,98,149
1897-98 ...	14,309,304	1,94,76,553	9,54,25,864
1898-99 ...	9,246,580	1,25,85,623	6,42,35,731
1899-1900 ...	9,273,799	1,26,22,671	7,66,84,510
1900-1901 ...	12,842,848*	1,74,79,116	11,15,25,080
1901-1902 ...	15,327,070*	2,08,53,772	12,27,31,775

* These figures represent export from the whole of Bengal. Separate statistics of export from Calcutta are no longer published.

There is also a considerable export of jute by sea from Chittagong.

41. According to the most recent estimates, the area, outturn, local consumption and export of jute in an ordinary year are believed to be as follows:—

Total acreage	2,339,100
	Bales.
Total outturn	7,017,300
Domestic consumption	500,000
Consumption in mills	2,200,000
Exports by sea from Calcutta and Chittagong ...	4,317,300

Jute appears to thrive on almost every description of soil in Bengal except laterite. The plant flourishes most in a hot, damp atmosphere, with a heavy rainfall and rich alluvial soil. It is chiefly cultivated in Northern and Eastern Bengal, while in recent years the cultivation has spread considerably in the districts of the Presidency Division. The only districts in Bihar which grow jute to any extent are Bhagalpur, Malda and Purnea. The districts of Orissa also grow a little jute. It may be said generally, however, that in Orissa, Chota Nagpur and the western districts of Bihar, the place of jute is taken by other fibres. The total area ordinarily cultivated with jute in these Provinces is estimated at 2,339,100 acres, of which the district of Mymensingh alone claims nearly 24 per cent., Rangpur 15, Tippera 12, Dacca 7, Pabna 6, Rajshahi 5, Dinajpur 4, Faridpur 4, Bogra 4, Purnea 2, Jalpaiguri 3, 24-Parganas 3, and Nadia, Jessore and Malda each about 1 per cent.

There are two species of jute generally cultivated in Bengal; *corchorus capsularis* (round-podded variety) and *corchorus olitorias* (the long-podded variety). *C. capsularis* thrives in low wet lands while *C. olitorias* does best on dry uplands. The former is mostly cultivated in North and East Bengal and the latter in the western districts of the Province.

42. The seasons for sowing and growth are the same as those for the early rice crop of Bengal. After the usual ploughing, the seed is sown broadcast from the middle or end of March to the beginning of June, and the plant is generally cut from the middle of August to the middle of October, and in some districts earlier. The plant before it is cut grows stout and strong, and is from five to ten feet in height. The stalks when cut are made up into bundles and are then at once immersed in water. The steeping process is called retting. While the bundles are under water they are examined from time to time to test how far decomposition has progressed, and as soon as it is found that the fibres peel off readily, the bundles are taken out of the water and put in hand for the separation of the fibre. The process of separation most generally followed is to beat or shake the stalks in the water in which they are steeped till the glutinous substance in the bark is entirely washed away. The fibre is then dried in the sun, and, when dry, is made up into hanks and is ready for the market. The average outturn of jute is estimated at about 15 maunds (or 1,200lbs.) of fibre per acre. The most productive areas are the recent alluvial formations in Eastern Bengal.

43. When the jute is prepared the raiyat carries the bundles into which the hanks of the fibre are made up to the nearest market, or to the large marts, according to local circumstances, and there sells it to traders, who take the

produce away, and in their turn, dispose of it to the wholesale dealers. The petty traders also go about from homestead to homestead making purchases of the fibre, which they either dispose of on their own account or make over to the merchants from whom they have received advances. These itinerant traders are to be met with in every district where jute is largely grown, and almost everywhere they stand between the jute-grower and the merchant. These petty dealers generally sprinkle water on the cleaned fibre in order to make it heavier. The quantity of water in such wet fibres sometimes amounts to 20 per cent. of the total weight. This unfair dealing is certainly one of the reasons of the alleged deterioration of the jute fibre in Bengal. The great bulk of the jute of Bengal is brought down to Calcutta by country boats, by steamer and by rail. The total quantity of raw jute imported into Calcutta by these routes during the past ten years has been as follows:—

Route.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1900-1901.*	1901-1902.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds
By boat	52,95,215	50,61,093	53,91,413	53,79,180	54,47,283	63,93,691	41,39,655	31,08,925	2,56,45,079	2,84,62,992
,, steamer	43,05,367	50,00,736	69,24,040	70,72,683	61,63,151	78,87,476	60,56,460	64,36,498		
,, rail	84,79,624	77,78,239	1,14,89,870	1,08,43,532	1,14,52,368	1,38,70,813	92,50,943	1,03,11,886		

* Separate figures are not available.

44. Jute is sent down to Calcutta generally in the form of drums or hanks. Within recent years a method of partially pressing jute in hand presses has come into vogue for convenience of transport by railway. Several jute screw-houses have been established in Dacca, Mymensingh and Pabna, whence ready-made bales are sent down to Calcutta. A part of the imports into Calcutta is used for local consumption and manufacture, while the greater part, intended for exportation, is made up into bales in the different screw-houses in and around Calcutta. In these presses the lower portion of the jute, which is hard and entangled with the bark and woody matter, and therefore cut off from the clean fibre, cannot be pressed. This portion is technically called "jute-cuttings." A small portion of the fibre is also rejected in baling, and is known in the trade as "rejections." Generally speaking, about one-sixth of the fibre is separated out as "cuttings" and "rejections," but these latter are separately baled for export. Jute pressing has considerably increased in the Dacca Division in consequence of the erection of new press-houses by Messrs. Ralli Brothers and other firms. In 1891 there were seven jute presses in Calcutta, four in Howrah, seven in the 24-Parganas, six in Dacca, two in Mymensingh and one in Pabna. In 1901 there were three jute presses in Calcutta, six in Howrah, eleven in the 24-Parganas, forty-nine in Dacca, two in Purnea and five in Pabna.

Jute is converted by native manufacturers into cordage, cloth and paper. Of cordage the range is great, from the thinnest twist, such as is fit for weaving, to thick ropes for hawsers for large boats. Gunny-cloth is made of very different qualities, to adapt it for the various purposes for which it is used. The manufacture of jute for paper does not materially differ from that adopted for the same purpose with old rags, &c.

In the interior of Bengal there are several large depôts or emporia of trade which collect the jute from the neighbouring districts and then reconsign it to Calcutta. The principal large marts are Sirajganj, Narayanganj, Goalundo and Kushtia.

There are 34 steam mills in Bengal for the spinning and weaving of jute and gunny-bags. Of these mills, 20 are in the districts of the 24-Parganas, five in the district of Hooghly and nine in Howrah. The total number of looms and spindles at work in these mills in 1900-1901 was 15,169 and 313,740, respectively. During the last ten years the number of jute mills in Bengal has increased by 10, and the number of looms and spindles by 6,355 and 136,022, respectively. The industry, which is among the most important in Bengal, appears to be yet capable of considerable development. Over 110,051 hands were employed in it during 1900-1901. The outturn of the mills chiefly consists of gunny-bags and cloth, but a few mills also make yarn and twist.

45. Jute is believed to have deteriorated in quality of late. One of the causes of this seems to be the cultivation of this crop on the same lands year after year and without the use of a sufficient quantity of any fertiliser. Cowdung is the only manure used now by the raiyats, and this is seldom available. Owing

to the large increase of area under jute and lands suitable for this crop being limited, they cannot be rotated with paddy or other crops. At the instance of the Calcutta Baled Jute Association, the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, has recently undertaken experiments at the Burdwan and Chittagong agricultural farms with a view to ascertain as a preliminary measure:—

(1) Whether the quality of the fibre varies with the variety of jute grown?
(2) At what stage of growth should the crop be harvested to give the best fibre?
(3) Does a well-grown crop, obtained from good suitable manured soil, produce better fibre than a middling or inferior crop?
(4) Are the quality of fibre and outturn affected by thick and thin sowing, and to what extent?
(5) What is the effect of sowing sound well-matured seed produced from healthy vigorous plants, in comparison with seed produced from a crop thickly sown for fibre?
(6) The quality of water and temperatures most suitable for retting. Is fresh water more suitable than stagnant? Can the retting process be improved in any way under such conditions as are ordinarily obtainable?

Sunn hemp.

46. *Sunn* (*crotalaria juncea*).—This is not the true hemp, though it is known in the trade and is exported under the name of *sunn* hemp. Its chief local use is in the manufacture of nets and cordage for boats, &c. Previous to the establishment of the Bally Paper Mills, it was also used in the manufacture of paper. It is considered to be a renovating crop, being rich in nitrogen, and is sometimes used as a green manure to enrich poor paddy lands. The crop is generally sown in May and June, and harvested from the 15th of August to the 15th of September. In North and East Bengal, however, it is mostly cultivated as a winter crop.

Dhunecha.

47. *Dhunchee* or *dhunecha* (*sesbania aculeata*) grows in low, wet soils, to the height of from 10 to 12 feet, yielding fibres from six to eight feet in length; but they are coarser and more harsh than those of hemp. It is considered, however, to be more durable in water than either *pat* or *sunn*, and is much used by fishermen for drag ropes to their nets. It is a hardier plant than jute, and can be grown with little or no trouble. The cultivation is considered advantageous, as the crop improves the soil by clearing it of its weeds and increasing its stock of nitrogenous matter. It is cultivated also for its sticks, which are used for fuel (especially for setting fire to funeral pyres), and as props for valuable creepers.

Hemp.

48. *Ganja* (*Cannabis sativa*), the true hemp, is cultivated for the sake of the intoxicating drug manufactured therefrom, and for the leaves, which are smoked and cause intoxication. In the wild state the plant grows to a height of from five to six feet, a few vigorous specimens attaining a height of nine to ten feet. The cultivated variety is rather stunted, rarely rising above six feet. The narcotic property of the plant is due to a resinous substance which is secreted in minute glands both in the leaf and in the flowers.

In Bengal the seeds of the plant are used for making an oil, which is tolerably well adapted for lamps and is also employed for adulteration with mustard oil. In Rajshahi the seeds are baked and eaten as an article of food, but not very extensively. In Europe they are used to feed cage birds. The oil is extensively employed for a variety of purposes, such as for lamps, in the manufacture of soap, paints and varnishes. The wood is used for fuel only, and the bark, in Bengal, is thrown away.

The most important products of the hemp are its leaves, flowers and resin, all of which are used as intoxicating drugs. The dry leaves are known under the different names of *bhang*, *siddhi*, *patti* and *sabji*, and form an article of trade. Boiled with ghee over water the leaves part with a portion of their peculiar resin to the ghee, which floats on the water in the form of a green jelly. This jelly mixed with dried milk and syrup over a fire produces a paste called *majoon* or *majoom*, which is a favourite form of the drug. The dried leaves in powder are also mixed with a variety of stimulating spices and made into different kinds of conserves. *Charas* is the name of the resin. *Ganja* is produced from the flowers of the female plants. Both *charas* and *ganja* are used for smoking. The intoxication from *siddhi* and *ganja* is said to last several hours, and that from *charas* only an hour or two.

The hemp plant grows wild all over India. Shahabad, Champaran, and especially Monghyr and Bhagalpur, are noted for the extensive growth of the wild plant, and it is from these districts that the leaves known as

siddhi are supplied to all the Bengal markets. No attempt is made to utilize the bark. In some parts of Dacca, Patna, and in the Tributary Mahals of Chota Nagpur, hemp is cultivated on a limited scale only for its leaves. The hemp plant is also grown in the Tributary Mahals of Orissa, but the *ganja* produced is of an inferior description, and finds no favour with the smokers of Bengal.

49. At one time the district of Jessore used to be the chief seat of *ganja* cultivation. At the present time the cultivation of the hemp plant for *ganja* is confined in Bengal to a limited tract of country around Naugaon, and falling within the jurisdiction of the three adjoining districts of Rajshahi, Bogra and Dinajpur. The tract is known as the *ganja mahal*. The plant is not allowed to be cultivated in Bengal outside the limits of the *Janja mahal*; and, like opium, the cultivation of *ganja* is carried on under the strict supervision of Government. *Ganja* requires very careful cultivation. The seed is sown in a nursery in August, and transplanted four or five weeks later in the field on ridges which have to be very carefully prepared, kept clean by frequent weedings and hoeings, and liberally manured with cowdung and oilcake. The difficult portion of the work is in removing all the male plants from the field. This work requires special knowledge, and is performed by experts called *poddars*. The harvest takes place in February. The curing of the drug also requires special skill and care.

50. There are two kinds of *ganja* ordinarily known in the trade, namely, flat and round, the former containing more woody matter and leaves, and therefore fetching a lower price than the latter. In preparing either kind a small proportion is broken into small pieces which are known as *choor*. These consist of pure *ganja* and are, therefore, more powerful than either the flat or the round variety. The statement below shows in a comparative form the results of the cultivation of *ganja* during the last five years:—

Year.	Quantity of land under *ganja* cultivation.	Number of licenses granted.	Quantity of *ganja* produced.	Average produce per bigha.
	Bgs. c.		Mds. s.	Mds. s. c.
1897-98 ...	2,107 11	1,136	5,792 36	2 30 0
1898-99 ...	1,530 11	1,023	5,417 13	3 21 9
1899-1900 ...	2,733 0	1,603	7,551 23	2 30 8
1900-1901 ...	5,164 18	2,621	7,824 12	1 20 9
1901-1902 ...	4,416 12	2,413	11,324 32	2 22 9

Since the year 1896-97 *ganja* has been exported in bond to the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. The total quantities exported during the last five years are as follows:—

	Under bond. Mds. s. c.
1897-98	293 28 13
1898-99	328 1 11
1899-1900	404 10 3
1900-1901	365 30 11
1901-1902	368 17 9

The total quantities of *ganja* consumed in Bengal and exported to other places outside the Province on payment of duty during the last five years are given in the following table:—

Year.	Bengal.	United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.	Assam.	Cooch Behar.	Nepal.	Other places.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1897-98 ...	4,265	27	678	70	218	204
1898-99 ...	4,487	22	548	67	199	149
1899-1900 ...	4,491	7	765	74	159	251
1900-1901 ...	4,624	...	689(*a*)	76(*a*)	267	304(*b*)
1901-1902 ..	4,541	...	537(*a*)	85(*a*)	281	357(*c*)

(*a*) Without payment of duty.
(*b*) Out of this, 76 maunds were exported to Mourbhanj and other Garhjat States without payment of duty
(*c*) " 64 " " " " "

The following statement shows the number of *ganja* shops, the quantity consumed, and the license fees and duty realized during the past five years:—

	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.
Number of shops ...	2,706	2,699	2,701	2,713	2,720
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Quantity consumed in maunds.	4,651	4,797	4,844	5,119	5,115
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
License fees ...	12,92,042	13,07,315	13,52,014	14,19,465	14,97,524
Duty	13,65,410	14,12,825	13,47,753	14,96,653	15,90,130
Total ...	26,57,452	27,20,140	26,99,767	29,16,118	30,87,654

Oil-seeds.

51. Oil-seeds are an important crop, oil being universally required according to native customs for application to the person, as well as for food and for lamps. In recent years the cultivation of oil-seeds has received a stimulus owing to the demand for them in Europe. In 1900-1901 the export in various kinds of oil-seeds amounted to 4,787,281 cwts., valued at Rs. 4,13,47,077. The use of vegetable oils for lighting purposes has been very largely superseded by kerosine-oil, enormous quantities of which are now imported from America and Russia. A considerable quantity of mineral oil is also imported from Burma.

It is estimated that over 4 million acres of land are annually cropped with oil-seeds in these Provinces. Out of this area over one-half is devoted to rape-seed and mustard, about one-fifth to linseed, and the rest to *til* and minor oil-seeds. The minor oil-seeds include such crops as castor, *sarguza* also known as Abyssinian or nigerseed, and poppy.

Linseed.

52. Linseed is the produce of the common flax plant. It is exclusively grown in India for the seed. It is the chief oil-seed crop of Bihar, whence large importations are made into Calcutta for export to Western countries. The normal area under linseed in this Province is estimated to be 866,500 acres, of which no less than 512,800 acres lie in Bihar. The normal outturn is about 6 maunds per acre. The damper districts of Bengal Proper are not well suited to its cultivation. Linseed is a cold-weather crop, and is sown and reaped at the same time as wheat or barley. It is also largely grown as a catch-crop after the rice harvest. Linseed oil is occasionally used in cooking by the poorer classes in Bihar, but its local use is very limited.

Linseed is exported to a far greater extent than any other oil-seed. The trade in this oil-seed has undergone a large expansion during the last decade. The value of the exports now exceeds $2\frac{1}{3}$ millions sterling. In 1840 the value was about two lakhs of rupees; in 1851 it was a quarter of a million sterling; in 1862 it was three-quarters of a million; in 1864-65 it exceeded a million. The trade then slightly declined, but in 1870-71, when the American crop was injuriously affected by rain, it reached one and three-fifth millions, and in 1882-83 the value of the exports was estimated at upwards of $1\frac{1}{2}$ millions. In 1891 it exceeded two millions, while in 1901 it amounted to over three millions sterling. The main consuming countries are North America and the United Kingdom. Russia competes with Bengal in exporting to both of these countries. Of the total imports of linseed into Calcutta, Bihar and Bengal Proper supply about three-fourths; the remainder is received from the Upper Provinces. Almost the entire quantity received into Calcutta is exported to foreign countries, very little being retained for local consumption.

Rape-seed and mustard.

53. Rape-seed and mustard are the most important oil-seeds grown in Bengal Proper. They are also largely grown in Bihar, Orissa and Chota Nagpur. The chief centres of cultivation are the districts of Eastern and Northern Bengal, which contain extensive tracts of alluvial land cropped in the cold weather with oil-seeds and pulse. According to the latest estimates the area sown in rape and mustard in Bengal amounts to 2,116,200 acres, of which 1,625,300 acres lie in Bengal Proper. The normal outturn is 6 maunds per acre. There are several varieties of rape-seed and mustard

(known variously as *sarisha, rai, &c.*). One kind is usually grown by itself on high lands near the village site and requires careful cultivation; another kind (*rai*) is a plant of coarser habit, is grown on *deara* lands, and requires little care and cultivation. The latter is usually sown mixed with other cold-weather crops. All varieties of rape-seed and mustard are sown in October and November and reaped in January and February. Of all descriptions of oil, that obtained from rape-seed and mustard is the most largely consumed and most relished by the people in every part of these Provinces.

The export trade in rape-seed and mustard is less important than that in linseed; but large quantities of these oil-seeds, amounting to about 20 lakhs of maunds, are annually brought into Calcutta for local consumption, chiefly for pressing in the numerous oil-mills which have been opened in Calcutta. The produce of these mills is consumed largely in Calcutta, and is also exported to the interior.

54. Sesamum or gingelly, known as *til* in Northern India, is grown more or less in every district in these Provinces. There are two chief varieties. The first is a *kharif* variety, sown in July to September and gathered during November and December; the other is a summer variety, sown in January to March and reaped in June and July. The former occupies about 318,500 acres, and the latter about 108,000 acres in these Provinces. The normal yield is about 4¼ maunds per acre. In 1900-1901 304,272 cwts. of sesamum, valued at Rs. 21,82,838, were exported from this Province. Sesamum.

The exports by sea of oil-seeds from Bengal during the past five years were as follows:—

Year.	Linseed.	Mustard and rape-seed.	Sesamum.	Castor.	Poppy.	Cotton.	Earth-nut.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1897-98 ...	3,271,532	1,319,615	90,985	7,114	304,598	4,962	288
1898-99 ...	6,012 300	834,159	101,928	9,704	358,860	182	161
1899-1900 ...	5,761,729	589,948	127,174	21,721	377,933	5,884	158
1900-1901 ...	4,010,052	421,113	79,612	2,937	360,871	7,219	21
1901-1902 ...	5,104,749	282,144	88,608	7,066	330,673	14,604	243

55. The cultivation of cotton has been declining in Bengal since European piece-goods have been introduced into the country. The total area at present sown in cotton in Bengal is estimated at about 138,300 acres. The only districts which appear to grow cotton on upwards of 10,000 acres are, in order of importance, Manbhum, Saran, Bhagalpur and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. In the plains of Bengal the production of cotton is an inconsiderable industry and none is exported, while much is imported from the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. The cotton at present grown in Bengal is not sufficient for the requirements of the people, and has to be supplemented by importation of the raw material by land or river from the west, and of piece-goods from England. Cotton.

Generally speaking, then, it may be said that the production of cotton does not form at present an important industry of the cultivators in Bengal. It is cultivated not as an article of commerce, but only for domestic use, the agricultural classes occasionally preferring strong home-made spun cloth to the less durable machine-made European cotton piece-goods procurable in the bazar. There is no anxiety on the part of the cultivators to extend or improve the cultivation of cotton, which is gradually, but surely, being driven out of the market by the introduction and increasing use of foreign twist and cloth. In the Chittagong Hill Tracts, however, the cultivation of cotton is reported to be on the increase, owing to the rapid extension of *jhum* and plough cultivation, and it is now practically the only district which exports cotton to any large extent. There are two cotton crops in Bengal: the early crop, which is sown during the monsoon rains and harvested during the cold

weather; and the late crop, which is sown at the close of the rainy season and reaped in the hot weather. The total outturn of both the crops is estimated in an ordinary year at about 3,376 tons only.

Sugar.

56. Sugar is manufactured both from the sugarcane and the date tree.

Date-sugar.—The cultivation of the date tree and the manufacture of date-sugar are extensively carried on in a compact block of country comprising the districts of Jessore, Khulna, Faridpur and the eastern parts of Nadia, and the 24-Parganas. It is a popular and profitable business for the cultivators. The date tree is cultivated to a small extent in many other districts, where its juice is chiefly used as a beverage, fermented or unfermented. The tree flourishes in moist alluvial soil above the inundation level. In the districts where it is chiefly cultivated it is grown in regular plantations, and along the borders of fields. One acre of land, if well stocked, may carry over 450 trees. The trees arrive at maturity in five to seven years, and continue to yield juice for from 20 to 30 years. The juice is extracted from the trees during the four months of the cold season. It is estimated that a tree yields on the average about five seers of juice every day, and about 15 seers of *gur* or jaggery, valued at 12 annas, during the season. Each tree gives the raiyat a clear profit of about six annas, and he also enjoys the advantage of raising a cold-weather or a *bhadoi* rice crop on the ground occupied by the date garden. Trustworthy estimates of the total acreage under date trees and of the total production of date-sugar are not available. The latest estimates received from District Officers go to show that about 2,800,000 cwts. of *gur* or raw sugar are produced in these Provinces. *Gur*, or molasses, and date-sugar are largely consumed in the districts in which they are manufactured, and are also exported to Calcutta and the surrounding districts.

Sugarcane.

57. Sugarcane, of which there are several varieties, is grown throughout the Province. It is most extensively cultivated in the Rajshahi, Patna, Dacca and Bhagalpur Divisions, where the area planted is estimated at 148,600, 143,000, 117,000 and 102,000 acres, respectively. The total area under sugarcane in the Province is believed to be about 740,200 acres. Sugarcane is largely grown in the Native State of Cooch Behar, and to a small extent in the Tributary Mahals of Orissa.

58. The cane is generally grown on high lands, which are not subject to inundation, and which are easily irrigated. In the damper districts of Eastern and Northern Bengal, the crop requires little or no irrigation. There are two or three varieties of sugarcane which grow in the submerged tracts of the Madaripur subdivision of Faridpur, where about 3 to 5 feet of water accumulates during the rains. These varieties are planted in December or January and harvested in August and September. The cost of cultivation and manufacture varies considerably in all the Divisions. In some districts sugar and *gur* are manufactured for home consumption only, while in others they are manufactured for home use as well as for export to other districts. Iron mills have come into almost universal use for the extraction of cane juice, and the native wooden mills are disappearing fast before them. The use of iron mills has resulted in diminishing the cost of manufacturing sugar. There are numerous factories in Bengal where sugar is refined according to native methods. The towns of Kotchandpur and Kesabpur in Jessore, Goburdanga and Sukchar in the 24-Parganas, Santipur in Nadia, Madhubani in Darbhanga and Nasriganj in Shahabad, yet contain a large number of refineries and carry on a large trade in sugar, though the trade has suffered greatly in recent years owing to competition with imported bounty-fed sugar. There are several kinds of native refined sugar. An essential feature of the native method of refining is the use of some species of aquatic weeds. The raw jaggery or concrete sugar is placed in earthen vats having a hole at the bottom; over it is spread a thick layer of weed, the water contained in which filters through the mass and carries with it the molasses, leaving the crystallizable portion as a more or less pure granular sugar. The sugar trade of Calcutta has undergone a serious revolution in the course of the last twenty-five years. Not many years ago Bengal used to export sugar largely to European countries; but the export trade has been nearly destroyed by the invasion of the Home markets by bounty-fed beet-sugar. On the other hand a large trade has sprung up in the importation of sugar from Mauritius, Java, the Straits Settlements and Madras. These facts

will appear from the statistics of the sugar trade of Calcutta since 1878-79 given below:—

Year.	Imports into Calcutta by sea.		Exports from Calcutta by sea.	
	Refined sugar.	Unrefined sugar.	Refined sugar.	Unrefined sugar.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1878-79 ...	19,030	758	2,06,647	14,449
1879-80 ...	24,897	14	2,24,463	22,740
1880-81 ...	86,817	194	72,905	24,919
1881-82 ...	66,430	1	1,01,987	1,16,193
1882-83 ...	47,746	860	2,47,841	1,16,468
1883-84 ...	31,484	334	3,06,057	88,601
1884-85 ...	1,38,794	1,096	42,052	39,950
1885-86 ...	1,59,405	7,634	41,553	8,018
1886-87 ...	2,38,469	90,345	36,289	6,933
1887-88 ...	3,52,317	1,24,115	61,972	5,218
1888-89 ...	2,34,948	2,24,404	36,890	96,885
1889-90 ...	3,40,927	1,28,383	1,05,284	1,73,918
1890-91 ...	7,58,068	2,68,543	45,641	14,336
1891-92 ...	6,20,570	1,90,445	56,077	30,834
1892-93 ...	3,37,140	1,47,720	77,952	48,719
1893-94 ...	5,67,221	1,24,190	1,65,492	75,834
1894-95 ...	6,61,311	2,61,323	82,021	34,616
1895-96 ...	8,00,818	2,75,438	74,249	20,395
1896-97 ...	7,63,837	2,41,293	73,824	28,279
1897-98 ...	14,95,056	5,00,463	66,778	26,097
1898-99 ...	14,96,679	4,17,672	62,093	29,928
1899-1900 ...	11,49,374	4,77,097	56,907	37,976
1900-1901* ...	20,61,614	5,87,845	38,886	19,625
1901-1902* ...	22,75,473	7,14,429	41,637	24,367

The increasing imports of foreign sugar into Bengal and the destruction of its once large export trade in this article have sensibly told on the native refining industry. The cultivation of sugarcane and date trees does not, however, appear to have suffered from the adverse competition.

Tobacco.

59. Tobacco is grown more or less extensively for local consumption in every district in Bengal, and in Rangpur, Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, Darbhanga, Purnea, 24-Parganas, Nadia and Jessore it is also largely grown for trade and export. The cultivator ordinarily takes up a small plot of land near his cow-house for the convenience of manuring the land, as he always, if possible, manures his tobacco crop. In Barasat and elsewhere, where indigo cultivation has mostly died out, tobacco thrives well on the old indigo lands, and may be seen planted up to the very edge of the ruined vats. Tobacco is reared in a nursery in August, September and October; it is transplanted a month later, and the leaves are ready for gathering from January to March. The total area under tobacco cultivation in Bengal is estimated at 576,100 acres.

The districts of Rangpur and Jalpaiguri and the Native State of Cooch Behar contain the largest and most productive areas under tobacco cultivation, Rangpur growing about 194,000 and Jalpaiguri 90,000 acres. There are several varieties of the plant grown in these districts, but they usually go under the name of *Kochar* tobacco. The produce is distributed all over Eastern Bengal, and a not inconsiderable quantity leaves the country and goes to British Burma and elsewhere. The climate and soil of the Terai districts are remarkably suited for the cultivation of tobacco. What is most wanted at present is to introduce improvements in the curing process. As evidence of the excellence of the Rangpur tobacco, it may be noted that a medal was obtained by a native of the district for a specimen which he exhibited at the Paris Exhibition of 1867. The produce of Cooch Behar especially is highly esteemed. The quality of the tobacco grown in North Bengal is much

* These figures represent the import into and export from whole Bengal. Separate statistics of imports into and exports from Calcutta are not published now.

liked by the natives, and tobacco has been a staple of those parts for at least a century past. The trade is chiefly in the hands of Mughs, who come annually to the district and export the tobacco to Calcutta, and to Narayanganj and Chittagong for export to Burma. This tobacco is eventually for the most part made up into Burma cheroots, and is manufactured in Calcutta as well as in Burma. The produce varies from six to twelve maunds an acre, while the price varies from Rs. 3 to Rs. 7 per maund. The Burmese Mughs, who import tobacco into their own country for the purpose of making cheroots, select the very broad and thick-leaved plant, neither too mild nor too strong, and pay as much as Rs. 7 a maund for it. The variety most prized by them is called by the people *hatheekan*, from its resemblance to the ears of the elephant.

In the districts of the 24-Parganas, Jessore and Nadia tobacco is generally grown merely for domestic use, but in a tract of country, including the northern part of the Barasat subdivision of the 24-Parganas, the southern portions of Ranaghat in Nadia and of Bangaon in Jessore, the cultivation is of more importance, and the crop is exported. The quality and price vary considerably. The best tobacco is called the Hinglee tobacco, from Hinglee, a village on the left bank of the Jamuna river, three or four miles west of the Gaighata thana in Jessore. Tobacco known as Hinglee tobacco is grown generally over this area, and sells for from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 or Rs. 8 per maund. Some special qualities of Hinglee leaf are said to fetch as much as Rs. 20 the maund. The exports are mostly to Calcutta.

In Bihar the principal cultivation of tobacco is in the Darbhanga district, and the most extensive cultivation as well as the best tobacco comes from Tajpur, in Pargana Sareysa, which is famous for the good quality of the leaf. The average yield per acre is said to be about 18 to 20 maunds, and the price is about Rs. 5 per maund. The cultivators as a rule derive a very handsome profit, generally averaging Rs. 60 per bigha, and sometimes as much as Rs. 80 or Rs. 90. Tobacco leaves the district in various ways—some of the raiyats themselves export it in carts to Nepal or take it to Hajipur and other river marts in the district and there dispose of it, while many thousand maunds are bought up by the travelling merchants and transported by river and rail to the Upper Provinces and Bengal.

The total weight of the tobacco trade of Bengal during the past five years is given below:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	Mds.	Mds.
1897-98	... 740,769	1,452,031
1898-99	... 631,405	1,298,640
1899-1900	... 722,869	1,382,588
1900-1901	... 741,426	1,383,390
1901-1902	... 756,808	1,479,970

Of the total imports into Calcutta, Rangpur alone supplies more than two-fifths; and of the total exports, Burma takes over 80 per cent. The export trade with European countries continues to be insignificant.

Tea.

60. The districts of these Provinces in which tea is cultivated are the Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts of the Rajshahi Division, the Chittagong and Chittagong Hill Tracts districts of the Chittagong Division, and the Ranchi and Hazaribagh districts of the Chota Nagpur Division. The number of tea-gardens and the area planted with tea are steadily on the increase. At the close of 1891 there were 414 gardens in Bengal, with a total area of 90,815 acres under tea. By 1901 the number of tea-gardens in the Province had risen to 452 with a total area of 135,129 acres. The total outturn of the year amounted to 46,203,980lbs., the average yield being 367·5lbs. per acre of mature plants. It will be observed from the table below that the yield of the gardens in the Jalpaiguri district was returned last year as averaging $5\frac{1}{2}$ maunds an acre, and that in Chittagong as $3\frac{4}{5}$ maunds, while in no other district in Bengal did the yield exceed $3\frac{1}{2}$ maunds an acre. During the decade ending 1901 the number of gardens in Bengal has increased by 38 and the acreage planted by 44,314 acres. Six small gardens in Dacca were closed in 1890 owing to gradual decrease in the yield of tea.

61. The following statement gives some important particulars of the tea industry in Bengal for the year 1901:—

District.	Number of gardens.	Acreage.			Area not yet planted.	Outturn in lbs.	Rate of outturn per acre.
		Mature.	Immature.	Total.			
					Acres.		
Darjeeling	170	49,054	2,670	51,724	44,464	13,535,537	275·9
Jalpaiguri	235	70,475	5,928	76,403	163,471	31,087,637	441·1
Chittagong	21	3,853	484	4,337	5,891	1,187,283	308·1
Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	1	70	2	72	...	20,040	286·3
Hazaribagh	4	150	...	150	2,000	3,000	20·0
Ranchi	21	2,276	167	2,443	288	370,583	162·8
Total ...	452	125,878	9,251	1,35,129	216,114	46,203,980	367·1

The major portion of tea is made in the black form. The use of machinery in the preparation of the leaf is almost universal. Local labour is used everywhere except in the *Terai* gardens of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling, for which labour is imported from Chota Nagpur and the Sonthal Parganas.

The following statement shows the trade of Bengal in Indian tea during the past three years:—

	Imports.			Exports.		
	1899-1900.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.	1899-1900.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
By rail and river ...	145,447,076	183,244,608	169,899,017	42,877,111	47,107,913	44,028,946
„ sea	968,056	917,121	866,353	171,613,638	187,143,309	175,713,833
Total ...	146,415,132	184,161,729	170,765,370	214,490,749	234,251,222	219,742,779

The value of the exports by sea during the three years was Rs. 8,78,65,450 in 1899-1900, Rs. 9,25,99,268 in 1900-1901, and Rs. 7,82,98,703 in 1901-1902.

The largest imports are from Assam, which supplied Calcutta with 101,936,941lbs. in 1899-1900, and 135,898,889lbs. in 1900-1901. Tea is also imported into Bengal from the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab. The chief exports by sea are to the United Kingdom, where 149,339,050lbs. were sent in 1899-1900, 161,100,248lbs. in 1900-1901, and 138,941,030lbs. in 1901-1902.

Indigo.

62. North Bihar, including the districts of Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga (known jointly as Tirhut), Saran, and Champaran, is at the present time the chief seat of indigo cultivation in Bengal. The crop is also grown over considerable areas in Purnea, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Nadia, Jessore, Murshidabad and Malda, and over small areas in Burdwan, Bankura, Rangpur, Shahabad, Midnapore and the Sonthal Parganas. The indigo industry has been steadily on the decline during the past decade, owing to competition with synthetic indigo in the European markets. The total area annually sown with indigo in these Provinces was estimated in 1896 at 544,500 acres, but this has gradually dwindled to 318,200 acres in 1901. The average outturn of the dye has been estimated to vary from 12lbs. in Bengal Proper to 20lbs. in Bihar. The gross yearly outturn of indigo in Bihar and Bengal averages about 4,837,200 cwts., more than three-fourths of which are contributed by the four districts of Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Saran and Champaran. The bulk of the indigo crop is raised by the raiyats on a system of advances which has been always associated with the cultivation of indigo. The general practice is for the planter to obtain from the zamindar or other landholders a lease of a village for a term of years, and then to arrange with the raiyats that they shall grow indigo on a certain portion of their holdings every year. The cultivators are assisted with advances of seed and of money to carry on the cultivation. The planters also grow a considerable quantity of indigo on their own zirat lands; while occasionally the raiyats grow it on their own

account, and sell it to the factory by weight. The latter system is known in Bihar as the *khuskhi* system. In Bengal Proper indigo is generally grown on alluvial soils subject to inundation from the Ganges and its numerous branches. The seed (of which the best kind is imported from Cawnpore) is simply sown broadcast over the silt left after the subsidence of the water. On higher lands one or two ploughings and a harrowing are given previous to sowing. The crop is occasionally weeded, and cattle are turned on in the cold weather to browse over the indigo-field and thus keep the weeds down. Winter crops, such as oilseeds and pulse, are frequently sown with October-sown indigo, and yield an extra return to the cultivator. Besides the October sowings, a second course of sowings is resorted to in April, and on some lands is found to be more profitable than the early sowings. The April sowings are, however, much less resorted to, as April is the busiest season of the year for ordinary cultivation. In North Bihar indigo is cultivated with much greater care than in Bengal Proper. It is generally sown on high lands above the reach of the annual floods. The land being carefully ploughed and pulverized, the seed is drilled in February and March. The young crop is weeded as occasion requires. In Shahabad to the south of the Ganges, where the soil is not retentive of moisture, the sowings are carried on during June, July and August, the later sown crops being kept on till next year; but lands irrigated from canals or wells are sown in February, March and April. Indigo is cut in June, July and August. In Bihar a second crop is obtained in September and October. When cut, the leaves are taken to the factory to be steeped in large vats for about ten hours until the process of fermentation is completed. The water is then poured out into a second vat and subjected to a brisk beating, the effect of which is to separate the particles of dye and cause them to settle at the bottom. Finally the sediment is boiled, strained and made up into cakes for the Calcutta market. In recent years steam has been introduced into the factories for two purposes, viz., to maintain an equable temperature in the vats while the preliminary process of fermentation is going on, and to supersede by machinery the manual labour of beating. The number of factories and the gross outturn of indigo during 1901-1902 in each district in Bengal is shown in the following statement:—

District.	No. of factories.	Outturn in factory maunds (11 factory maunds = 10 standard maunds).
Bengal Proper—		
Nadia	6	1,736
Murshidabad	9	3,027
Midnapore	1	58
Rangpur	...	566
Bihar—		
Muzaffarpur	60	27,108
Darbhanga		
Champaran	20	18,625
Saran	23	7,709
Shahabad	3	206
Monghyr	7	1,887
Bhagalpur	17	1,598
Purnea	15	4,070
Malda	1	872
Sonthal Parganas	2	80
	Total ...	67,542 = 61,402 standard maunds.

63. The market value of indigo was very low last year, having averaged about Rs. 150 per maund, and the crop was also a very small one. The gross outturn of indigo last year may be valued at upwards of 100 lakhs of rupees against 150 lakhs of rupees ten years ago. Almost the entire output of the dye

in Bengal is exported. The trade of Bengal in indigo during the last three years is shown in the following statement:—

Specification of Routes.	Imports.			Exports.		
	1899-1900.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.	1899-1900.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
By rail and river	86,867	81,402	78,071	58,898	58,020	64,280
„ sea	8	27	83	82,309	98,514	75,361
Total ...	86,875	81,429	78,154	1,41,207	1,56,534	1,39,641

To the total imports the Lower Provinces contributed 56,452 maunds in 1899-1900 and 56,697 maunds in 1900-1901. The bulk of the sea-borne exports finds its way to the United Kingdom, America, France, Austria, Turkey in Asia and Germany.

Silk.

64. The silk production of Bengal, though in a declining state, is still very considerable. The total production of raw silk in the Province is estimated to be about 3½ million pounds, of which about (1) 500,000lbs. are exported by European merchants to foreign countries; (2) 800,000lbs. are utilised in the Province almost entirely by village weavers for manufacturing piece-goods of various kinds; (3) 250,000lbs. are transported coastwise to other Provinces; and (4) 2,000,000lbs. are exported to other Provinces by road, river and rail. The total value of the production is about 2½ crores of rupees, the bulk of the trade being in the hands of natives. The decline in the Bengal silk trade has been chiefly in two directions, viz., in the export trade and in the manufacturing industry. In the days of the East India Company, and for many years subsequently, silk occupied the first place in the export trade, but it has been gradually superseded by jute, rice, tea, oilseeds, opium, indigo, hides and skins, wheat and raw cotton. The following table gives the export of raw silk, filature waste and cocoons to foreign countries for the last ten years:—

Year.	Quantity in—				Value in—			
	Raw.	Chussum.	Cocoons.	Total.	Raw.	Chussum.	Cocoons.	Total.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1892-93	617,941	864,539	66,307	1,548,787	50,05,986	8,51,549	83,711	59,41,246
1893-94	612,394	855,091	65,800	1,533,285	57,17,113	9,91,345	61,927	67,70,385
1894-95	509,716	564,440	23,500	1,097,656	42,47,379	5,59,264	17,687	48,24,330
1895-96	701,280	745,719	12,294	1,459,373	54,94,628	6,61,066	11,642	61,67,336
1896-97	594,561	597,573	643	1,192,777	44,88,784	4,61,213	712	49,50,709
1897-98	622,225	694,456	1,742	1,318,423	45,16,936	4,57,233	3,105	49,77,274
1898-99	512,734	770,882	4,780	1,288,396	39,06,091	5,22,082	2,240	44,30,413
1899-1900	722,199	869,165	...	1,591,364	61,49,593	6,25,895	...	67,75,493
1900-1901	558,237	672,034	...	1,230,271	42,95,081	5,67,434	...	48,62,515
1901-1902	678,871	775,890	26,000	1,480,761	52,96,240	6,08,424	19,500	59,24,164

The extent of decline in the silk industry of the Province may be judged by comparing the above figures with the following figures of export trade in raw silk alone during the three years ending 1867—70:—

Years.	Quantity in lbs.	Value in Rs.
1867-68	2,138,668	1,46,09,140
1868-69	2,329,404	1,30,35,951
1869-70	2,228,464	1,35,93,084

Roughly speaking about 2,500,000 yards (valued at 20 lakhs of rupees) of *korahs* are now exported annually to foreign countries. The heavy pretective tariff against manufactured silk imposed by the French Government since 1892 has affected the export in *korahs* very prejudicially. It cannot be

ascertained with certainty how far the internal trade in the Bengal raw silk trade (chiefly native reeled) has contracted within recent years, and Chinese and other foreign silks taken its place. It is believed, however, that this trade also has declined very much within the last ten years. In 1877-78 the coastwise export of raw silk from Bengal to other Provinces was about 684,888lbs., while for the last ten years it has been:—

Years.	Quantity in lbs.	Value in Rs.
1892-93	252,208	12,45,437
1893-94	130,933	6,16,594
1894-95	166,436	8,43,183
1895-96	292,589	12,54,715
1896-97	330,361	13,42,227
1897-98	249,496	7,24,664
1898-99	135,895	5,22,778
1899-1900	76,063	4,07,958
1900-1901	108,884	5,85,275
1901-1902	104,474	3,86,033

65. It is difficult to say exactly how far foreign silks have ousted the products of the native loom within the decade; but there is no doubt that the use of foreign silks has increased, and the trade is being pushed. Still the weight of silk piece-goods exported from the manufacturing centres in Murshidabad, Rajshahi, Birbhum, Burdwan, Midnapore and other places to the other Provinces of India is about 345,000lbs. per annum. The bulk of it consists of cheap *korahs* and *matkas*, which are used in the Punjab and in the Mahratta country. That the introduction of the power-loom in silk weaving will arrest the decline in the manufacturing industry of the Province seems certain. As yet, however, there is no sign of English capitalists starting silk-weaving factories on the European method, and the only factory in Bengal where European silk-weaving machinery is used is the one at Ultadanga, near Calcutta, established by an enterprising Muhammadan gentleman.

The expansion of the silk trade within recent years has been only in the export of tusser raw, mulberry silk waste, and wild cocoons; but even in these departments China is meeting the European demand with far more energy than Bengal. With regard to the tusser silk, it may be mentioned that the factories for reeling the tusser are situated in the district of Murshidabad, while the cocoons are collected in the Sonthal Parganas and Chota Nagpur, where people cannot reel the cocoons. The expansion of the tusser silk trade could have been achieved much faster if the reeling were done on the spot by the Sonthals.

66. Of the various causes which have brought about the decayed condition of the Bengal silk industry, the prevalence of silkworm epidemics has been considered the most important. Attempts were, therefore, made from 1886 to 1888 to bring out an expert from Europe who could introduce M Pasteur's system of *grainage* in Bengal, while Mr. Nitya Gopal Mukherji was employed from December 1886 to do what he could to induce raiyats to adopt healthier methods of rearing silkworms. The negotiations to bring out an expert failed. In April 1888 Mr. Mukherji was, therefore, deputed to learn the European methods of silk-rearing in France and Italy, and on his return to Bengal he resumed charge of the silk experiments, under the control of a Committee, from September 1888 to August 1891, and subsequently under the Agricultural Department. This arrangement was continued till 1896, and during these years Mr. Mukherji was successful in rearing seed-cocoons under the Pasteur-system which were far superior to the native seed. The native rearers appreciated his seed, and his pupils in independent charge of private nurseries, originally started by him, succeeded in making the business pay. From 1896 to 1898 the work was carried on, on the lines of Mr. Mukherji, under the supervision of one of the Assistant Director of Land Records. Since 1899 the operations have been taken over by a Committee of silk merchants and have extended to nearly all the silk districts of the Province. A sericultural school, with a nursery, has also been opened in Rajshahi which supplies the Committee with trained sericultural overseers, and also trains rearers' sons in methods of seed examination.

Considerable progress has been made in the study of the diseases to which silkworms, cocoons and mulberry bushes in Bengal are liable, in eradicating disease among silkworms, in diffusing healthy seed over the silk districts and in thus improving the quality of the silk produced. Model nurseries have been opened at various central sites, and the Committee's overseers carry instruction to the very doors of the cultivators and demonstrate the scientific system of rearing cocoons. The use of sulphur and of sulphate of copper is also spreading among native rearers.

67. Lac (*láh*) is a cellular resinous incrustation of a deep orange colour secreted by an insect (*Coccus lacca*) round the branches of various trees, the most common being the *kusum* (*Schleichera trijuga*), *palas* (*Butea frondosa*), *pipal* (*Ficus religiosa*) and *bair* (*Zizyphus jujuba*). Its principal chemical component is resin, which forms from 60 to 70 per cent. of the stick-lac from which is manufactured the shell-lac of commerce. Lac-dye is obtained from the small cells of the crustation, and is itself a portion of the body of the female insect. The entire incrustation, while still adhering to the twig, is called stick-lac. In order to obtain the largest quantity of dye the stick-lac is gathered before the young come out, which happens twice in the year—in January and July. The dye is first extracted by repeated processes of washing and straining, while the shell-lac is worked up from what remains in a hot and semi-liquid state. Lac.

Lac is found in Bengal over the large tract of hilly country covering the Chota Nagpur Division, and overlapping the west of the Burdwan and the north of the Orissa Division. The principal lac factories are in the districts of Ranchi and Manbhum in the Chota Nagpur Division, and in the Bankura and Birbhum districts in the Burdwan Division. Stick and shell-lac are largely exported from Ranchi, Manbhum and Bankura. There is still an active demand for shell-lac, but lac-dye has been all but superseded by European dyes. The dye, which at one time used to sell at twice the price of shell-lac, now fetches a nominal value of about Rs. 10 per maund. A few maunds of dye are occasionally exported by sea to other parts of India. A little dye is also prepared as a cosmetic for use by Hindu women.

68. The manufacture of shell-lac is an important industry in the Bankura district, and is chiefly carried on in the town of Sonamukhi. The main supply of this article for all the factories in Bankura is obtained from the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division. The industry is carried on to a large extent at Elambazar, in Birbhum. Shell-lac and lac-dye are also manufactured at Mankur and Degnuggur, in Burdwan; but the industry is on the decline here also. There is a lac factory at Cossipore in the suburbs of Calcutta. The following statement shows the export of stick and shell-lac by sea from Bengal during the past ten years:—

Year.		Quantity. Cwt.	Value. Rs.
1892-93	...	129,495	78,75,006
1893-94	...	122,171	95,46,256
1894-95	...	160,469	1,39,87,820
1895-96	...	203,419	1,83,26,777
1896-97	...	205,501	1,39,02,662
1897-98	...	219,031	1,06,70,534
1898-99	...	180,748	86,12,880
1899-1900	...	237,600	1,13,05,571
1900-1901	...	223,191	1,04,90,320
1901-1902	...	155,313	95,24,949

69. Safflower is grown mainly for home consumption. It is cultivated on account of the florets, which are used as dye-stuff, and the seeds which yield an edible oil. It used to be grown most extensively in the Dacca Division for export, but its cultivation has rapidly declined before the competition of aniline dyes, and the area now under this crop in the district of Dacca is not worth consideration. The dye no longer fetches the high prices that it did some Safflower.

years ago. Prices averaged about Rs. 18 per maund in 1901-1902 against Rs. 24 to Rs. 36 in 1881-82. The total export of safflower from the Bengal Presidency fell off from 4,424 cwt., valued at Rs. 1,83,431, in 1878-79 to 1,525 cwt., valued at Rs. 19,764, in 1891-92; but it rose again to 2,377 cwts., valued at Rs. 59,192,in 1901-1902.

Opium.

70. The area in which Bengal opium is produced extends throughout the Gangetic plain from Bhagalpur on the east to Bareilly and Etawah in the United Provinces on the west. The production of opium is a Government monopoly, and no person is allowed to grow the poppy except on accouut of the Government. The arrangement connected with the growth of poppy and the manufacture of opium are carried on by two separate Agencies: that of Benares, of which the head-quarters station is at Ghazipur, and that of Bihar, of which the head-quarters station is at Patna. Annual engagements are entered into by the cultivators, who, in consideration of the payment of an advance, agree to cultivate a certain quantity of land with poppy, and to deliver the whole of the opium produced to the Government at a rate fixed according to its consistence, but subject to deductions for inferiority of quality. It is a fundamental principle to leave it entirely optional with every raiyat to enter into such an engagement or not. The best soil for poppy is loam, so situated that it can be highly manured and easily irrigated. The cultivation requires much attention throughout the growth of the plant. From the commencement of the rains in June until October, the ground is prepared by repeated ploughings, weedings, and manuring. The seed is sown in November. Resowings are sometimes necessary twice or thrice when the sowings fail through excessive heat or want of moisture. Several waterings and weedings are ordinarily necessary before the plant reaches maturity in February. After the plant has flowered, the first process is to remove the petals, which are preserved, to be used afterwards as coverings for the opium cakes. The opium is then collected during the months of February and March by scarifying the capsules in the afternoon with an iron instrument and scraping off the exudation the next morning. The consistence of the drug mainly depends upon the extent to which it is inspissated by extracting surplus moisture, whilst its quality depends on the complete extraction of a modified and hygroscopic form of the drug known as passewa, as well as on its freedom from adulteration. In the beginning of April the cultivators bring in their opium to the weighment centres of the different Sub-Agencies where it is examined and weighed, and the balance due, according to the District Officer's valuation, paid to them. Final adjustments are made in August after the value of the drug has been ascertained by assay at the central factories. The final process of preparing the drug in balls or cakes is conducted at the two factories at Patna and Ghazipur.

The area under cultivation in the Bihar Agency amounted last year to 352,187 bighas against 370,480 bighas in 1899-1900; in Benares to 626,033 bighas against 644,930 in 1899-1900, or in both Agencies together to 978,220 bighas against 1,015,410 bighas in the previous year. The lands to the south of the Ganges are all irrigated, while those to the north are only irrigated to a small extent.

The following statement shows the number of chests of provision opium of both Agencies sold during the past two years, the amount realized, the total receipts and charges, and the net revenue:—

Year.	Number of chests sold.		Amount realized.		Total receipt.	Total charges.	Net revenue.
	Bihar.	Benares.	Bihar.	Benares.			
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1899-1900	15,150	23,550	2,23,35,225	2,85,79,115	5,09,14,340	2,58,39,303	2,50,75,037
1900-1901	21,300	24,000	2,90,29,895	3,26,08,850	6,16,38,745	2,66,47,640	3,49,91,105

The average price realized per chest of provision opium amounted to Rs. 1,362-14-5 for Bihar and Rs. 1,358-11-2 for Benares opium in 1900-1901 against Rs. 1,230-9-5 and Rs. 1,213-8-9, respectively, in the preceding year.

The exports of opium by sea during the past two years were as follow:—

Countries to which exported.	1899-1900.		1900-1901.	
	Chest.	Value.	Chest.	Value.
		Rs.		Rs.
United Kingdom	478	5,84,615	612	8,31,415
Marseilles	.....	.....	10	13,050
Mauritius	30	33,400	33	42,410
Réunion	5	6,575	.....	.....
Aden	.....	.....	1	1,370
Ceylon	170	2,05,655	181	2,44,380
China—				
Hong-kong	22,637	2,75,37,500	22,828	3,11,02,230
Treaty Ports	1,910	24,30,025	2,240	30,30,775
Cochin China—Saigon ...	1,250	14,91,300	1,720	23,15,850
Java	355	4,45,950	590	7,71,150
Straits Settlements	15,592	1,88,18,535	16,779	2,28,71,725
Total ...	42,427	5,15,53,555	44,994	6,12,24,355

71. The manufacture of saltpetre is extensively carried on in Bihar. The districts of Saran, Champaran, Muzaffarpur, and Darbhanga, lying to the north of the Ganges, are particularly rich in nitrate of potassium. The nitrous ferments are less active elsewhere, and in the eastern districts their activity decreases greatly, owing to the dampness of the climate. Manufacture is carried on in small factories, about 25,000 in number, situate at towns and villages scattered over the country. Nitrous soil is collected from the vicinity of habitations and is lixiviated in small earthen filters. The nitrous brine so obtained is concentrated in small iron or earthen vessels with the aid of artificial heat, and saltpetre is obtained by crystallization, as the temperature of the concentrated liquid falls. The saltpetre so obtained is impure in quality, as it contains earthy matter and foreign salts (such as choloride of sodium) in mechanical admixture. This impure saltpetre is collected in refineries situated at different points among the village works, and is purified in them to a fair degree of refraction. The saltpetre so purified is sent to Calcutta whence some of it is sent by sea to the United Kingdom, the United States, China and other places in the condition in which it is received, while some is purified to a higher degree of refraction in refineries in Calcutta and its environs. Saltpetre.

The total number of saltpetre refineries under license in Calcutta, and its environs in 1901-1902 was 5—a number below the normal, the falling-off being attributed to depression in the trade. About 10,000 tons of refined saltpetre are produced annually in Bihar. The average price of purified saltpetre exported during the year 1901-1902 was approximately Rs. 158-6 per ton at the refineries. The total quantity of saltpetre exported from Calcutta during the year 1901-1902 amounted to 349,522 cwts., valued at Rs. 35·16 lakhs. The quantity of salt educed in the manufacture of saltpetre and removed from all refineries in the province on payment of duty during the year was 17,974 maunds. The quantity of refined saltpetre produced in the refineries in Calcutta was 50,571 maunds and the quantity of salt educed was 5,594 maunds. The quantity of salt excised was 2,360 maunds.

The control of the saltpetre refineries in Bihar, as well as in Calcutta and its environs, was vested in the Commissioner of Northern India Salt Revenue, up to the 1st July 1901, when, in accordance with the orders of the Government of India, the saltpetre refineries in Calcutta and its neighbourhood were brought under the control of the Commissioner of Excise and Salt, Bengal. The refineries in Bihar continue to be worked under the control of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department.

72. The cultivation of those species of cinchona which contain quinine and allied febrifuge alkaloids in their bark was begun in 1864 in the Rungjo valley in the outer Himalayas about 12 miles south-east of Darjeeling. In 1874 the manufacture of cinchona febrifuge was begun, the first year's Cinchona.

working yielding 50lbs. of febrifuge. For the next 14 years, up to 1887, only cinchona febrifuge was manufactured. In 1887 the manufacture of sulphate of quinine was commenced in the Mungpoo factory by a process of extraction by fusel oil elaborated by Mr. Wood, formerly Quinologist, and Mr. Gammie, then Deputy Superintendent of the Plantations. From 1887 onwards the factory has continued to produce, in addition to cinchona febrifuge, sulphate of quinine in yearly increasing quantities up to its present maximum possible output of between 10,000lbs. and 11,000lbs. In 1892-93 the outturn of the factory was 5,242lbs. of sulphate of quinine and 3,481lbs. of cinchona febrifuge. In 1901-1902 the outturn was 10,010lbs. and 3,424lbs., respectively. The proportion of the outturn of quinine to cinchona febrifuge is steadily on the increase. In 1892 was instituted the system of selling sulphate of quinine through the post-office in small packets containing 5 grains, prepared by the Jail Department, at the price of one pice per packet, so as to allow of even the poorest native purchasing a dose of the drug. In 1892-93 475lbs. and in 1901-1902 1,900lbs. of sulphate of quinine were issued to the Jail Department, Bengal, for the purpose.

73. From 1880 onwards the land available for extensions for planting out near the original plantations in the Rungjo and Ryang valleys was found insufficient, without replanting to grow the number of trees required to keep pace with the increasing demand for febrifuge and quinine. Accordingly in 1883 the first outlying plantation of 300 acres was started in the Runjung valley in British Bhutan. The Runjung valley had, however, too heavy a rainfall to enable cinchona to be successfully grown, and the plantation was exhausted and finally given up in 1896. The Nimbong plantation of about 500 acres, also situated in British Bhutan, was purchased in 1893 from a private company. No extensions were attempted there, but the trees standing on the plantation as purchased were gradually used up, till in 1896 the last was taken up and the plantation abandoned. In 1899 a fresh extension of about 900 acres was commenced in the Dumsong Forest block, situated about 10 miles north-east of Kalimpong, near the junction of the Rungpo and Teesta rivers on the borders of Independent Sikkim. This new block is known as the Munsong Division, and on it, by the end of 1901, there were planted out about 260 acres with about 600,000 plants of cinchona (calisaya) ledgeriana, and about 46,000 cinchona succirubra. In the year 1901 the Government cinchona plantations comprise the following:—

(1) The Rungjo valley block, consisting of the Rungbee and Mungpoo Divisions, which together measure about 900 acres, holding nearly two millions plants of which approximately half a million were cinchona (calisaya) ledgeriana and about the same amount hybrid, the remainder being cinchona succirubra.

(2) The Ryang valley block, consisting of the Sittong and Labdah Divisions, together comprising an area of about 600 acres with about 200,000 plants, more than half of which were cinchona succirubra, 75,000 hybrid, and the remainder cinchona (calisaya) ledgeriana.

(3) The Rongpu valley block comprising the Munsong division, the details of which are given above.

FORESTS.

Forests.

74. State forests in the Province of Bengal are confined to the districts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Sonthal Parganas, Hazaribagh, Palamau, Shahabad, Singhbhum, Manbhum, Angul, Puri, 24-Parganas, Khulna, Noakhali, Chittagong, and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The total area of forests under the control of Government was in 1901-1902 13,578 square miles, exclusive of the protected forests in Shahabad, the area of which is not precisely known. Of the above area, 12,971 square miles were under the management of the Forest Department and 607 under that of the Civil Department. Besides the forests under Government control there are extensive areas of forest in the Tributary States of Orissa and Chota Nagpur, but elsewhere private waste lands are usually covered with nothing better than scrub jungle.

Large tracts of country in Central and North-Western Bengal, especially in Bihar, are almost, if not entirely, destitute of forests or extensive areas of waste land, and it is here that cow-dung takes the place of wood fuel instead of being available for manuring the fields, whilst the people find it difficult to feed their plough cattle throughout the year. In Eastern Bengal clumps of bamboos, plantains, palms and fruit trees are numerous, and these no doubt furnish a certain amount of firewood. It is evident, therefore, that over extensive portions of Bengal, where bamboos and grass do not entirely suffice for building purposes, the people are dependent on timber imported from Jalpaiguri, Chota Nagpur and the Sundarbans. With the disappearance of forest properties owned by private individuals the people become more and more dependent on the forests set aside by Government for the supply of timber, fuel, fodder, pasture and other minor forest products.

75. State forests in Bengal are of three kinds—reserved, protected and unclassed. In 1901-1902 the reserved forests comprised an area of 5,963 square miles. These forests are set aside as permanent reserves for the production principally of timber and firewood, and for this reason cattle grazing is not allowed in them as a rule, unless it is unavoidable, and stringent regulations are imposed to prevent the illicit felling of trees, the occurrence of fires, &c. Of the reserved forests, 2,092 square miles in the Sundarbans contain "sundri" (*Heritiera Fomes*), the timber of which is much sought after for the construction of the innumerable boats which ply in the rivers of Eastern Bengal. Sál (*Shorea Robusta*), whose timber is chiefly valuable for railway sleepers and house construction, covers approximately an area of 1,500 square miles of reserved forest. Further areas in Chittagong, set aside as proposed reserves during the recent settlement operations, are now being delimited, and will in due course be constituted reserved forests.

The protected forests at the close of 1901-1902 comprised an approximate area of 3,582 square miles, of which 2,975 square miles were under the control of the Forest Department. The protected forests in the Angul, Palamau and Jalpaiguri districts are managed by the Civil Department as well as 143 square miles out of the 435 square miles of this class of forest in the Sonthal Parganas. Protected forests have not the same value as reserved forests, as they cannot be considered as permanent forest estates, and are sometimes not even demarcated. When it is within the power and in the interests of the State to maintain certain of its lands *permanently* for the supply of either timber, fuel, pasture or fodder, to constitute such lands as protected forest can only be regarded as a make-shift, having for its object (*a*) to extend a temporary protection to the land in the interval required to constitute the whole, or portions thereof, reserved forest, (*b*) to assert the ownership of Government to the land with a view to bringing it ultimately under cultivation, or (*c*) to stay the ultimate destruction of the forest (rendered inevitable in most cases owing to fires, excessive grazing and over-felling) by the introduction of light restrictions calculated to economise the resources of the forest and to make the produce last as long as local conditions will admit. In the Sundarbans the area of protected forest now stands at 1,844 square miles, but is rapidly diminishing owing to the spread of cultivation; during the 10 years ending 1901-1902, 421 square miles of protected forest have been leased out for the purposes of cultivation.

The unclassed forests are estimated to comprise an area of 4,033 square miles, the whole of which is situated in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The only control exercised in the case of these forests is over the export of their produce, tolls being levied on all such produce which is exported for sale in the plains of Chittagong.

76. The policy of the Bengal Forest Department has been for many years past to encourage private enterprise as far as possible in the removal of produce from the Government forests. During the past few years, however, endeavours have been made to meet a portion of the requirements of local railways in sleepers, and in such cases exploitation by departmental agency has to be resorted to. Considerable progress has been made during the last ten years in drawing up working plans for the systematic exploitation and regeneration of State forests. Such plans have been made and sanctioned for 2,537 square miles of reserved forests and 1,844 square miles of protected

forests. A working plan for 1,039 square miles of the valuable private sál forests of the Mohurbhanj State was also drawn up. Plans for an additional area of 950 square miles of forest are being compiled. The survey on the scale of 4 inches to 1 mile of the more valuable State forests was commenced in 1899 by the Imperial Forests Survey Department, and up to the end of 1901-1902, 780 square miles of reserved forests and 193 square miles of protected forests had been surveyed in the Singhbhum and Hazaribagh districts.

The following table shows the total outturn of the forests under departmental management in 1901-1902, compared with that in 1891-92:—

		1891-92.	1901-1902.
Timber	C. ft.	7,260,725	7,432,073
Firewood	,,	21,495,028	24,086,397
Bamboos	No.	19,233,944	24,169,227
Minor produce (value) ...	Rs.	1,35,586	3,48,128

Of the above quantities the following are estimated to have been removed from the forests free of charge:—

		1891-92.	1901-1902.
Timber	C. ft.	32,081	21,320
Firewood	,,	4,444	23,408
Bamboos	No.	1,000	80
Minor produce (value) ...	Rs.	14,044	1,558

The working of the Department continues to show a growing increase of receipts over charges. In 1873-74 the surplus receipts were Rs. 42,664; in 1881-82, Rs. 2,39,124; in 1891-92, Rs. 3,66,623, and in 1901-1902, Rs. 6,35,100.

Elephants.

77. Among the most important products of some of the Forests of Bengal are wild elephants. Their chief use is in the timber trade and for Government transport. They are also bought up by native chiefs and landowners as objects of display. The regular mode of catching these animals is by means of a kheddah, or gigantic stockade, into which a wild herd is driven, then starved into submission and tamed by animals already domesticated. These operations have, for years past, been carried on by the Kheddah Department under the Government of India. In the year 1888, as considerable destruction was caused by wild elephants to the crops of cultivators in the Duars, which form part of the district of Jalpaiguri, the Government of Bengal sanctioned a proposal of the Deputy Commissioner to hunt and capture wild elephants by the method known as "mela shikar," or "capture by noosing." This method of capturing elephants is practised in Nepal and Assam. Although the number of elephants captured by this method is small compared to that effected by the regular kheddah, the system has two advantages, namely, (1) it is less costly; (2) it is less destructive, for under the regular kheddah system a tract of country can be almost entirely cleared of elephants, whole herds being captured at one time; whereas under the noosing system only the medium and smaller sized elephants belonging to the herd are captured, the rest escaping. The kheddah operations are carried on in the forests of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions, and are, of course, on a much larger scale than the noosing in Jalpaiguri.

During the nine years ending 31st March 1902, 183 elephants (including 27 calves) were captured by the noosing system in Jalpaiguri. The operations of the Government Kheddah Department were during this period conducted outside Bengal.

In 1898-99 kheddah operations were carried out under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner in the district of Angul, where wild elephants had become very numerous, and caused great damage to the crops. Thirteen elephants were caught as the result of the operations.

CATTLE, ETC.

Cattle.

78. The cattle in Bengal are, generally speaking, very weakly and small, the reason being that the conditions of Bengal proper are not suitable for cattle-breeding, except perhaps in some of the districts in North Bengal. The raiyats do not ordinarily attempt to improve their animals by adopting any of the well-known means, such as liberal feeding of the young stock, introduction

of new blood by the importation of good bulls, &c., &c. Breeding is chiefly done by means of Brahmini bulls. The people appreciate good Siris, but they prefer to castrate any male cattle of their own, because bullocks are more valuable for work, and fetch higher prices, than bulls. Attempts have been made under the Courts of Wards, and the District Boards and by some of the more important zamindars to improve their cattle by the importation of up-country bulls; and English bulls have been imported by some individuals and by the District Board of Patna. But this has been done more with a view of increasing milk-production than to improve the stamp of the cattle generally. There is no special system of cattle-management in any part of the Province. Grazing is nowhere plentiful, except in some limited areas. Calves are generally starved, being left to live on what they can pick up during the day, and at night are often housed in crowded, insanitary sheds. Bullocks, when in work, are fed on paddy-straw, *bhusa*, *kalai*, oil-cake or cotton seed, but at other times they have very little stall-feeding. Hay is sometimes given, but paddy-straw and coarse grass are the chief fodder-stuffs offered. *Bhusa* is seldom given. Cattle are put to work when they are between three and four years old. They are used for all kinds of agricultural, draught and pack work, and in places their labour is very severe. Cows, though not generally worked, are in some parts used for ploughing and light draught. The ordinary village cow yields, on an average, about 1 to 2 seers of milk a day. The best *desi* milkers are to be found in the Burdwan district in the plains and in the Darjeeling district in the hills, but nowhere is the quantity of milk given said to exceed six seers daily. The best half-bred Patna cows are said sometimes to give 14 seers of milk.

79. Taking Bengal as a whole, the conditions under which the ordinary cattle exist are the same all over the Province. The complaint is general throughout the Province that the cattle are degenerating. The alleged causes are want of food and sufficient pasture, the grazing becoming more and more confined to swamps, promiscuous breeding from inferior Brahmini bulls, starvation of calves and young stock, and castration of the best young bulls. The cattle, as they now are, will tend to deteriorate steadily. The only practical means of checking this process seems to be to distribute good bulls and to buy up the best young ones to prevent emasculation and for distribution. No doubt, other measures are desirable, but they seem almost impossible to realise.

Probably on account of the deterioration of the cattle there is a steady trade in these animals from up-country and Nepal, which supply the better class of cart-bullocks. These animals are found as far east as Chittagong, Comilla and Mymensingh. On the other hand, the worn-out stock find their way to Calcutta for food. Many up-country cows are imported into Calcutta for their milk, and these when dry and their calves seem to be exported to the Strait Settlements for food. In the Patna Division three distinct breeds of cattle are found, viz., the Patna, the Sitamarhi and the Bachour. The Patna breed, found chiefly in the Patna district, have a strain of English or Australian blood in them. They are the best milkers. The Sitamarhi, which are found in a part of the Muzaffarpur district, and the Bachour, which are found in pargana Bachour in the Madhubani subdivision of Darbhanga, are the best draught cattle in Bengal. In the Darjeeling district two special breeds of cattle known as "Siri" and "Nepali" are found. The Nepalies are small, smooth-skinned cattle; they are good climbers, and do very well in the forests. The "Siris" are a very rough-coated breed, useful for cart-work and milking. A cross between these two are called "Sirikutchas." In the Presidency Division, a breed of cattle is found called "Bhagalpuries." These animals are imported and are somewhat larger in size. Cows ordinarily yield two to four seers of milk a day. A pair of cart-bullocks generally draw from eight to ten maunds, and the pack-bullocks carry from one and-a-half to two and-a-half maunds.

80. Every year a number of cattle in Bengal come by their death by poison. The motive for the crime is the hide of the animal. The criminals are always members of the Chamar or Mochi caste, who are hereditary skinners and leather dealers, and under any circumstances would remove the skin of the dead cattle. Arsenic is the poison most commonly

used by the cattle-poisoners, having been discovered in 387 out of 514 samples of cattle-poison which were examined by the Chemical Examiner in 1901. Recent statistics show that cattle-poisoning is most prevalent in the Patna, Presidency and Dacca Divisions.

Buffaloes.

81. In Bengal buffaloes are employed for agricultural purposes and for other slow draught work, but chiefly for their milk, which they yield in large quantities. Very good classes of these animals are bred in Purnea, and in some districts of East Bengal, especially Mymensingh, Noakhali and Backergunge. In Purnea two kinds of buffaloes are recognized, called "Areu" and "Bhangri." The "Areus," which have long horns, and are said to have a strain of the wild buffalo in them, are found in the southern part of the district. The "Bhangris," which seem to differ but little from the "Areus," except that they have shorter horns, are found in the northern part of the district. In Backergunge buffaloes receive more attention than other cattle. A good cow-buffalo gives 10 to 15 seers of milk a day. It is generally estimated that 10 seers of buffalo's milk yield one seer of ghee.

Horses.

82. It may be said that neither horse nor pony breeding exists in Bengal. The indigenous *tats* are found all over the Province, but they are of very poor stamp. In Darjeeling a race of ponies is found called "Bhuteas," and they appear to come from Tibet and Bhutan. They are remarkably coarse-bred animals, with upright shoulders, ugly heads, and great bone. They are valued for their sure-footedness and great power of endurance. All country-bred horses are brought down by dealers from the Punjab and Northern Provinces. Horses and ponies are also imported from Nepal and Burma. Calcutta is the great centre of the Australian horse trade, and the large majority of army remounts are purchased there. Mule-breeding has been very unsuccessful in Bengal. Attempts to breed these animals in Sikkim have failed completely. Mule-breeding is being carried on in Buxar as an experimental measure.

Goats.

83. Goats are bred almost everywhere in Bengal, and apparently with great success, by poor people as a supplementary means of livelihood. These animals are used for food and milk. Besides those locally bred, some are imported from the Punjab, which are called "Jamunaparis." They are large and fine animals, and give as much as $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ seer of milk a day. It is said, however, that their milk-yield is apt to diminish in this climate. Goats are sometimes imported from Tibet, and they are remarkably fine animals, with long and straight hair.

Sheep.

84. Sheep-breeding is carried on chiefly in Bihar, and to a small extent in Chota Nagpur, Purnea and Midnapore. The Patna breed of sheep is known to be the best in Bengal. It is believed that at some time a few rams were imported into Patna from Madras, and that these Madras rams had a strain of Merino blood in them. However, the wool of Patna sheep is much inferior to the worst specimens of the Merino. The Chota Nagpur breed is small. The breed of sheep in Bengal has, generally speaking, deteriorated. Sheep will not thrive in Eastern Bengal and those parts of the country which are under water for several months of the year, but in those districts which are dry they do very well.

Poultry.

85. The best poultry come from Chittagong and the Hill Tracts, and are short-legged, large-bodied birds, much resembling English fowls. The district of Backergunge is said to produce a good class of poultry. Many of the best English breeds have been imported by the planters into the Darjeeling district, and these birds have retained their original characteristics very remarkably.

MINES AND QUARRIES.

Coal.

86. By far the most important of the mineral industries in Bengal is that concerned in the raising of coal. It is almost the most important mineral industry in India, being only surpassed by the working of gold in Mysore, of which the production was of the value of Rs. 2,81,86,280 in 1890, as against a value of Rs. 1,44,01,348, or nearly one million pounds sterling, for the coal raised in the same year in Bengal.

The coal of Bengal is all derived from the rocks of the Gondwana system, and is of permian age, or rather younger than the coal of England. These rocks occur in a number of isolated basins, of which the Raniganj field is

the most important as regards area, accessibility and output. The area of the Raniganj coal-field is not less than 500 square miles, exclusive of its extension under the Gangetic alluvium, where the limit of the workable coal-field has not yet been defined. The next most important field, at the present day, is the small coal-field of Karharbari, about 11 square miles in area, the greater part of which is owned by the East India Railway Company. Though small in area, this coal-field yields the best coal in Bengal. A third field, whose economic importance is of recent date, but which is destined to rise in importance, is the Jheria coal-field, of about 200 square miles in area; it is situated to the west of the Raniganj field, the boundaries of the two being about 16 miles apart. A fourth field, worked to a small extent, and likely to rise in importance with the establishment of direct railway communication with Northern India, is that of Daltonganj, with an area of about 200 square miles. Besides these four coal-fields there are twenty-five others of various sizes down to less than a square mile in area, which are not at present being worked, though some of them will doubtless be opened up with the growth of the demand and means of communication.

Besides these coal-fields, which are all situated in the south-western part of the Province, there is a field in the foot-hills of the Darjeeling district. The coal is of the same age as that of the other coal-fields, but, in the disturbance of the rocks which accompanied and caused the elevation of the Himalayas, it has become so crushed as to be of little or no economic value. This added to the difficulties and expense of mining in crushed and high-dipping strata will prevent this field from ever attaining an economic importance, though the coal may be worked in small quantities for local consumption.

87. The history of the Bengal coal industry stretches back into the 18th century, coal having been worked as far back as the year 1777, but it was only with the opening up of railway communications between the coal-fields and the port of Calcutta on the one hand, and Upper India on the other, that the industry had a chance of expansion. In 1861-62 the total output of the Bengal coal-fields was only 288,336 tons and, taking 10-year intervals, the output grew as follows:—

	Tons.
1861-62	288,336
1871-72	284,623
1881	930,203
1891	1,747,122
1901	5,487,585

From this it will be seen that the great growth of the industry has taken place within the last years, and practically in the last decade, during which the growth may be judged from the statistics of output given below:—

	Tons.
1891	1,747,122
1892	1,920,050
1893	1,902,866
1894	2,035,934
1895	2,716,155
1896	3,037,920
1897	3,142,497
1898	3,622,090
1899	4,035,265
1900	4,978,492
1901	5,487,585

The large increase in 1895 is due to the great coal-strike and the similarly sudden increase in 1900 to the high price of coal ruling in England, but apart from these occasional and artificial stimuli it is evident that the Bengal coal trade is a vigorous and growing industry.

Apart from the great growth in the output of Indian coal during the last decade the trade has undergone an important change in character, for India has now become an exporter of coal on no inconsiderable scale. The export of coal to a foreign port—as opposed to coasting trade—was valued at Rs. 46,406 in 1891-92 and in the fiscal year 1900-1901 this had risen to

Rs. 59,38,686, representing 539,363 tons exported from Bengal alone, to which must be added 1,155 tons of coke, while 927 tons exported from Bombay and Burma were probably largely, if not wholly, Bengal coal. In the same year the import of coal had dwindled to 2,540 tons, a quantity which is likely to diminish, but not to vanish, as there are certain purposes for which Welsh coal will continue to be imported.

In quality the Bengal coals may be described as varying from good to bad, and of those which come on to the market as good to middling. The percentage of ash varies from 10 to 15 per cent.: coals with less than 10 per cent. are uncommon, those with over 15 per cent. usually unsaleable; the fixed carbon varies from 50 to 60 per cent., and speaking generally, they make good steam coals for use on land when the extra quantity used is no material drawback if compensated by lower price. Their lowness of price has brought them into practically universal use as bunker coals in Calcutta, and very largely in other eastern ports, in spite of the drawback that about one and-a-quarter tons are required to do the work of one ton of Welsh coal.

Mica. 88. The production of mica has undergone a development during the last decade which is even more phenomenal than that of coal, for in 1891 the industry was almost non-existent, the total production being valued at Rs. 87,000, while in 1900, with an output of 429 tons, it had risen to Rs. 4,17,000, a figure which there is reason to believe understates the value of the industry; the output for 1901 amounted to 870 tons. The mineral is found as a constituent of veins and sheets of coarse-grained pegmatite, which occurs intrusive in the older schists and gneisses. It has been found, however, that the pegmatite is as a rule only worth working for mica where it occurs intrusive in mica schists, and the mica-producing belt coincides roughly with the belt of schists and associated granites which stretches, with a width of about 12 miles, for some sixty miles through the districts of Hazaribagh, Gaya and Monghyr. The process of mining is of the most primitive description, narrow, tortuous passages are made through the pegmatite, passing from one book of mica to another, with no attempt at systematic extraction of the mineral. This method, though cheap as long as the workings are near the surface, becomes expensive as soon as they reach any depth on account of the impossibility of making any arrangements for drainage or haulage, and on account of the large amount of mica which is irretrievably damaged. In one case, however, a vein of pegmatite is being worked by the Indian Mica Company on a systematic series of drives and shafts, and it is to be hoped that it will be the prelude to the general adoption of a more satisfactory system of mining.

Iron. 89. Iron is still worked to some extent by the direct process of extraction used in the primitive and wasteful native furnaces, but there is only one concern engaged in its extraction on a large scale, and by European methods. The Bengal Iron and Steel Company have two blast furnaces at work at Barakar in the Raniganj coal-field, the whole of the output being utilized in the form of pig-iron. This industry is a growing one, but, owing to the competition of imported iron, the growth is gradual. The total output for the year 1901 was 43,629 tons.

Gold. 90. Gold-mining is confined to the Chota Nagpur Division. The numerous Gold-mining Companies formed in 1889 have almost all been dissolved or have ceased working, the only exception being the Pahardiah, late Bengal Gold and Silver Mining Company, which is still carrying on prospecting works; but the output of gold from mines is at present nil. It is doubtful whether there are any gold-bearing rocks in Chota Nagpur sufficiently rich to repay working; the country is, however, being investigated by the Geological Survey of India, and more information on this point may be expected soon.

Copper. 91. None of the copper deposits known to exist in the Chota Nagpur Division have been worked during the last decade. The copper ores of the Darjeeling district are also unworked. Prospecting operations have been lately undertaken near Komai, but have not been carried far enough to permit of the formation of an opinion regarding the possibility of working the ore at a profit. Sixty-one tons of copper ore were sent to England from the state copper-mine at Rangpur in Sikkim in 1901-1902.

Tin. 92. Tin is known to occur in Chota Nagpur, and is worked to a small extent by native methods. A mining company was started in 1891 to work

the metal in the Hazaribagh district, but its operations soon came to an end, and no further attempt has been made.

93. Pottery clays are worked locally throughout Bengal and converted into unglazed pottery. Besides this industry, Messrs. Burn & Co. have large pottery and fire-clay works at Raniganj, where fire-bricks, tiles, drain-pipes and all kinds of strong earthen-ware are turned out in steadily-increasing quantities. Pottery clays.

94. Quarry-stones and lime stone are worked in many of the districts of Bengal, but almost exclusively for local use, none of the building-stones of Bengal being of good enough a quality to bear long transport. Such building-stones as are used in Calcutta, or elsewhere, if not of local origin, come from other provinces of India. A certain amount of road-metal is, however, quarried in the Rajmahal hills and brought down to Calcutta for use on the roads in that city. Quarry-stones and Lime-stones.

MANUFACTURES.

95. The principal articles of manufacture in the Burdwan Division are silk and *tasar*, jute, cotton, molasses, shell-lac, rope, iron, brass, bell-metal and hardware, indigo, paper, pottery, bonemeal, mats and chemicals. The silk industry is carried on in the districts of Bankura, Birbhum and Midnapore, but it is of importance in Midnapore only. Silk fabrics of various kinds, such as damasked silk scarfs, wrappers, handkerchiefs, *saries* and *dhoties*, &c., manufactured by native weavers are exported from this district to Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and other places for sale. The silk industry in the Arambagh subdivision of the district of Hooghly is gradually on the wane, as also in other places of this Division, the reason being that the fabrics produced by handlooms cannot compete with the finer and cheaper foreign stuffs. *Tasar*, or a coarser variety of silk cloth, is manufactured in all the districts of this Division, except in Hooghly and Howrah. There are several jute and cotton mills in Hooghly and Howrah. Cotton cloth is still manufactured on a limited scale in the indigenous way in various parts of the Division; but this industry is gradually declining on account of the competition of machine-made stuffs. The fly-shuttle loom is coming into use in Serampore and its neighbourhood. Molasses are a common agricultural produce and are made in all parts of the Division. Indigo is now manufactured on a small scale in Burdwan, Birbhum and Midnapore. The industry is gradually declining. Shell-lac continues to be manufactured in Bankura and on a small scale in Birbhum. The total quantity turned out in Bankura was 8,207 maunds during the year 1901-1902. Brass, bell-metal utensils, and hardware are manufactured in the several districts of the Division; but in Hooghly it is reported that the industry is gradually dying away in consequence of the gradual adoption of the cheap enamelled ironware of foreign manufacture in the households of the district. Kanchannagar, a suburb of the town of Burdwan, is famous for its hardware manufactures; knives and scissors prepared here by one Prem Chand Mistri, the principal manufacturer, are used in Government offices. There are iron-works at Barakar in Burdwan and also in Howrah. In 1901-1902 the outturn at Barakar was 37,205 tons, the estimated value being Rs. 24,09,798; in Howrah the outturn was valued at Rs 33,00,000. At Barakar, where iron is made and steel beginning to be made from the ore, a great expansion is going on. The outturn of the pottery works at Raniganj during 1901-1902 was valued at Rs. 4,97,677. The total quantity of paper produced by the paper mills at Bally in Howrah and Raniganj in Burdwan was 6,336,250 lbs., valued at Rs. 8,48,595. Burdwan Division.

96. The principal articles of manufacture in the Presidency Division are cotton twist and yarn, gunny-bags and cloth, sugar and molasses, paper, silk, ice, soap, saltpetre, shell-lac and lacdye, indigo and cotton cloth. There are also other articles of less importance, such as, brushes and combs, locks and keys, tobacco, mats and palm braids, coarse cloth, brass utensils, bell-metal ware, ivory carving, blankets, shell bracelets and pottery. The manufacture of cotton twist and yarn, gunny-bags and cloth, paper, ice, soap, saltpetre, shell-lac and lacdye, is carried on in the district of the 24-Parganas alone. The total number of factories actually at work at the close of the year 1901-1902 was 74, of which 73 were in the 24-Parganas and one in Nadia. Presidency Division.

The following table shows the value of the outturn as returned by the owners of the several mills during the year 1900-1901:—

Articles.	Value of outturn. Rs.
Gunny-bags and cotton	4,16,13,417
Cotton twist and yarn	25,67,934
Lac	12,69,909
Paper	28,65,713
Tannery	1,52,343
Silk	2,22,605

The total outturn of paper from the Titaghar and Kankinara paper mills in the district of 24-Parganas during the last year was 19,737,877lbs., valued at Rs. 29,94,143. Silk is largely manufactured in the district of Murshidabad, where 58 factories were at work in 1901-1902 producing 419,651lbs. of raw silk, valued at Rs. 3,00,09,783. Sugar is manufactured in all the districts of the Division except Murshidabad. The competition of cheap bounty-fed sugar imported from foreign countries has seriously crippled the native industry, and it is too early to pronounce any definite opinion whether the countervailing duties imposed by Government will succeed in restoring the native industry to its former condition. Locks and keys after the pattern of Chubb's locks and of good quality are manufactured at Natagor and Kadihati in the 24-Parganas. The manufacture of cotton cloth is carried on in the town of Santipur, which was once famous for its fine muslins. These muslins are still exported to a small extent, but the industry is gradually declining, as the weavers are unable to compete with the imported British fabrics, which are cheaper and in all respects better finished. At Kushtia and Meherpore coarse cotton *dhotis*, bedsheets, bathing towels, wrappers, *aloans*, &c., largely used by the poorer classes, are manufactured to a considerable extent. Ghurni, a part of the Krishnagar town, is famous for its modellers in clay. In Murshidabad bell-metal and brass utensils of a superior kind are manufactured in considerable quantities. Ivory carving and the manufacture of blankets, shell bracelets, and pottery are carried on in a few villages. The earthen pottery, cutlery, and horn industries in the district of Khulna, are noticeable. Coarse cloths are manufactured by hand-looms, and it is said that these cloths are preferred by the poorer classes for their durability; but the industry is not flourishing.

Rajshahi Division.

97. The chief articles of manufacture in the Rajshahi Division are silk, ganja and tea. Rajshahi is the only silk-producing district in the Division. The estimated outturn of silk, was in 1901-1902, 162,559lbs. *Endi*, a kind of coarse silk, is manufactured in small quantities only for home consumption in the districts of Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Rangpur and Bogra. Ganja of the best quality is produced in the Naogaon subdivision in the district of Rajshahi, and is exported to all parts of Bengal, Assam, Cooch Behar, and United Provinces. The quantity manufactured last year was 11,324 maunds. The manufacture of tea continues to be the principal industry in the districts of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling. Particulars relating to this industry have been shown under a separate paragraph 'tea' in an earlier part of this chapter. Handloom manufacture of cotton-cloth, such as *dhutics*, *chadars*, *saries*, and other varieties still continues in Pabna, in spite of the importations of cheap European piece-goods, though the industry is dying out gradually, owing to adverse competition. Gunny-cloth of a very coarse quality is woven in the western parts of the district of Jalpaiguri. The strong striped cotton cloth called *phota*, which forms the dress of the women among the lower classes of people, is also manufactured for home consumption in that district. Gunny-cloth, gunny-bags, *endi* and *phota* are the principal articles of manufacture in Dinajpur. Since the destruction by the earthquake of 1897 of the jute mills at Sirajganj, the manufactures of gunny-cloths and bags has wholly ceased in Pabna. The manufacture of carpets or *satrunjees* is the only important industry worth noticing in the district of Rangpur. It is confined to a single village called Nesbetganj, and is gradually falling into decay, owing to the foreign competition and the gradual decrease in the number of skilled weavers. Molasses are manufactured in almost all the districts of this Division. Copper, brass and bell-metal utensils are manufactured in quantities just sufficient to meet local demands at Kalam and Budhpara in Rajshahi, and at

pachagarh in Jalpaiguri and in the Nilphamari and Kurigram subdivisions of the district of Rangpur. Kalam is also noted for its pottery. Mats are manufactured in the districts of Dinajpur, Rajshahi and Pabna. Cinchona cultivation by private companies is carried on to a very limited extent in Darjeeling. The outturn of bark from the plantation at the Moondakoti tea garden during the year 1901-1902 was 18,279lbs. Beer is manufactured at Sonada, St. Mary's near Kurseong and St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling. The total outturn in 1901-1902 was 71,798 gallons, of which 68,198 gallons were brewed at the Sonada Brewery.

98. There are no manufactures of any importance in the Dacca Division. Among the indigenous manufactures, the muslin and the gold, silver and shell-ornaments of Dacca carry a very high reputation, but the muslin industry is in a languishing condition, owing to the competition of the cheaper machine-made stuffs imported from Europe. Brass and bell-metal wares, ghee, cane-boxes, cheese, dry fish, *endi* cloth and *molasses* are the principal articles of manufacture in the Mymensingh district. Backergunge produces oil, coarse cloth, mats, knives and molasses. Faridpur is noted for its fine mats and cotton-check cloth. There are two steam oil-mills, one at Dacca and the other at Jhalokati in Backergunge, working profitably. The jute-pressing industry has so far increased in importance in the Dacca district, that there were altogether 49 jute-presses at work during 1901. Dacca Division.

99. In the Chittagong Division, brass utensils, bamboo and cane baskets, pottery, rough agricultural tools, and molasses are the principal manufactures in Tippera; a kind of coarse cloth, called *mainamati*, is made close to Comilla and finds favour in local markets and is to a limited extent exported to the neighbouring districts. There are no manufactures of importance in Noakhali. Coarse varieties of cotton cloth, bamboo mats, baskets, fishing nets and rough agricultural implements are manufactured here for local use only. Chittagong was formerly known for ship-building, but this important industry is gradually dying away, the total number of vessels built during 1901-1902 being three only. Rice-milling and tea-growing are the other two important industries of this district. In 1901-1902 Messrs. Bulloch Brothers & Co. milled 1,10,138 maunds of rice, worth Rs. 3,85,483. The tobacco-growing industry, which was rising into importance in this district, has since died away. In the Chittagong Hill Tracts, tea and handspun cotton cloth are the only articles manufactured. Chittagong Division.

100. Besides opium and other excisable articles, the principal articles of manufacture in the Patna Division are indigo, saltpetre and sugar. Particulars as to these industries will be found in the paragraphs above dealing with these commodities. Blankets and cotton cloths of coarse qualities are manufactured in the district of Patna, Gaya and Shahabad. Gaya produces stone-ware and tobacco of very good qualities which is highly relished by the native smokers and exported in large quantities to Calcutta and other important towns of this Province. It also produces carpets of superior textures. Carpets of coarser textures are also manufactured in Patna and Muzaffarpur. Native embroidered cloth, gold and silver, thread and braid, and country soap and toys are manufactured in the Patna city. Butter is manufactured in large quantities at Dinapur and exported to Calcutta and other places. Jessamine oil and *tasar* cloths are the principal articles of manufacture in the Barh subdivision, and muslins of fine qualities and smoking pipes are manufactured at Bihar. Tent-making and weaving are carried on to a considerable extent in the Buxar Central Jail. Patna Division.

101. Indigo is manufactured on a large or small scale in all the districts of the Bhagalpur Division, but as elsewhere in this Province, the industry is gradually declining. The manufacture of opium is confined to the district of Monghyr, which also produces *ghee* (clarified butter) of the best sort in large quantities for exportation to Calcutta and other places throughout the Province. The town of Monghyr has been from very early times noted for its gun manufacture, which, however, is fast declining in consequence of the desertion of the operatives who now find employment on higher pay in the workshop of the East Indian Railway at Jamalpur. The total number of guns exported to Calcutta and other places during 1901-1902 was 668. Molasses are largely manufactured in the Jamui subdivision of this district and exported to other districts. Silk is Bhagalpur Division.

the principal article of manufacture in Malda, and consists of two branches of industry, viz., the reeling of raw silk from cocoons and the weaving of silk piece-goods. The increased attention, which has for some years past been paid in this district to the rearing of cocoons on European methods, has had a very salutary effect on the industry. There are two silk factories in the district under European management, besides a large number of native filatures. In Purnea the manufacture of brass and *bidri*, which was once so important, is rapidly declining. The manufacture of gunny-bags by hand and mats is carried on in the Kishanganj subdivision of the district, both for local consumption and export elsewhere. In Bhagalpur *tasar*, baft cloths, molasses and ghee are the principal articles of manufacture. In the Sonthal Parganas the manufacture of lac is increasing in Pakour. Brick-making on European methods has been successfully started by Messrs. Ambler & Co. at Maharajpur for the East Indian Railway. Cotton cloths of coarser textures are also manufactured in the district for local consumption.

Orissa Division.

102. There is no manufacture of any importance in the Orissa Division, though various articles for local consumption are made on a more or less extensive scale. *Tasar* and cotton cloths are made by hand-loom in many places, some of which are prized for their fine texture or durability. But the industry does not thrive in the face of the competition with cheaper imported fabrics. Brass and bell-metal wares, including heavy brass ornaments for the lower classes of women, are made in all the districts in considerable quantities, and some of the bell-metal wares are also exported to the Tributary Mahals and Calcutta. Gold and silver ornaments are made in all the districts, though the workmanship is not generally of a very superior type, except in regard to the filigree work of Cuttack which maintains its reputation and finds a ready market within and without the Province. Salt used at one time to be extensively made in all the three districts, but latterly the manufacture was confined as a Government monopoly to a small tract on the Chilka Lake in the district of Puri, and ultimately ceased altogether four years ago, the local product being unable to compete with Madras salt ever since the opening of through Railway communication.

Chota Nagpur Division.

103. Lac is produced throughout the Chota Nagpur Division, but factories for the manufacture of shell-lac exist only in the districts of Ranchi and Manbhum. Tea is manufactured only in the districts of Hazaribagh and Ranchi, but the industry is declining, as the soil and the amount of rain that usually falls in those two districts do not favour the growth of the plant. It is expected that directly the competition of the mines and railways begins to be felt, the industry will have to be totally abandoned. *Tasar* cloth is the only important article of manufacture in the district of Manbhum. Coarse cotton cloths, brass and bell-metal utensils and rough brass ornaments are manufactured all over the Division. Soap-stone, plates and bowls are manufactured in parts of the Manbhum and Singhbhum districts.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary of the Civil Administration of Bengal.

104. The English first came to Bengal in 1633, when Mr. Ralph Cartwright obtained a *parwana* for free trade in Orissa from the *Nabab* and accordingly established factories at Balasore and Hariharapur, now known as Jagatsimhapur. The latter factory was soon abandoned. In 1650 the English established themselves at Hooghly.

The trade in the Bay of Bengal was at first regarded as a mere extension of the Coast trade. Hence the factories in the Bay were subordinate with those of the Coast first to Bantam, then to Surat, and lastly to Fort St. George, when it became an independent Agency. The first independent Governor of the English in Bengal was William (afterwards Sir William) Hedges, appointed in 1682, but recalled in 1684, when the Bay was again made subordinate to Fort St. George.

The English on several occasions obtained grants for free trade from Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb and from the subordinate governors of Bengal. The story that the first of these grants was obtained through the influence of a Surgeon, Gabriel Boughton, is not supported by historical evidence, and is probably incorrect. It was, however, found that the grants and orders of the Indian Government were no sufficient protection to the trade. In 1686 the English Company broke with the Indian Government, and ordered their agents to seize some place of defence in Bengal, and make it the centre of their trade. After several years of fighting and debate, at the instance of Job Charnock, the new centre of trade was fixed at Calcutta where the English made their final settlement on the 24th August 1690.

105. In 1696, in consequence of the disturbances caused by the rebellion of Subha Simha, the English were permitted by the Local Government to fortify their settlement at Calcutta, and at the end of the year the building of the fort was begun by the Agent, Charles Eyre. In 1698 the Prince Azim-ush-shan, grandson of Aurangzeb and Subahdar of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa allowed the Company's Agent to purchase the talukdar's right to the three villages of Calcutta, Sutanuti, and Govindpur.

In 1700 the fort was enlarged and called Fort William, Bengal was made an independent presidency, and Sir Charles Eyre was appointed first President and Governor of Fort William in Bengal. He was succeeded by John Beard, who vigorously carried on the building of the fort. The British flag was hoisted in Calcutta on the 6th October 1703. From 1704 to 1710, Calcutta was under the "Rotation Government," under a Council over which a different member presided in alternate weeks. But in 1710, the line of Presidents and Governors was restored in the person of Captain Anthony Wellden, and has since continued unbroken.

In 1717 the United Company obtained a royal grant from the Emperor Farrukhsiyar granting them, besides privileges of trade, permission to purchase the *talukdari* of 38 additional villages adjacent, subject to an annual revenue of Rs. 8,121, but the opposition of Murshid Quli Khan prevented them from actually acquiring the villages. Nevertheless by recognising and legalising their claims the royal grant benefited the English, and the *Nabab* by refusing to allow them to occupy the 38 villages furnished them with a standing legitimate ground of complaint which they urged with effect under Clive.

106. The treaty with Siraj-ud-Daula, in February 1757, after the recapture of Calcutta, by the fourth article of which the Company were "allowed to fortify Calcutta in such manner as they might esteem proper," and by the fifth of which it was stipulated "that siccas be coined at Alinagur (Calcutta) in the same manner as at Murshidabad," with a general promise of amity, may be considered to have first established the Company's territorial character in Bengal. On the 4th June 1757, moreover, by a treaty entered into with Jafar Ali Khan, this agreement was confirmed, and the Company's zamindari extended six hundred yards without the ditch of Calcutta, and over the 24-Parganas, south of Calcutta, as far as Calpi.

24-Parganas, 1757.

In the treaty concluded with the Nawab Mir Muhammad Kasim Ali Khan, on the 27th September 1760, it was agreed that Kasim should succeed as Nawab of the Subahdari of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa; that the English army should be ready to assist him in the management of affairs, and that the lands of the chaklas (districts) of Burdwan, Midnapore and Chittagong should be assigned for all the Company's charges. A complete and full cession of these three districts was then effected and confirmed again by Jafar Ali Khan in the treaty for his reinstatement, dated 10th July 1763.

Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong, 1760.

107. After the expulsion of the Nawab Kasim Ali Khan and the decisive battle of Buxar, the *dewani* of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa* was conferred in perpetuity on the East India Company by the Emperor Shah Alam, under a royal grant, dated the 12th August 1765. As the *dewani* included the administration of Civil Justice as well as the collection of the revenue, the grant

GRANT OF DEWANI, August 12th, 1765.

* The Orissa of the last century included only the district of Midnapore and a part of Hooghly, or more accurately, the tract of country lying between the rivers Subarnarekha and Rupnarain. Orissa Proper was conquered and annexed from the Mahrattas by Lord Wellesley in 1803.

constituted the English the virtual rulers of the three provinces. The Nawab of Bengal recognized this grant under an agreement, dated 30th September in the same year, and consented to accept a fixed stipend for the maintenance of himself and his household.

In 1766, Lord Clive, then President of the Council of the Fort William, took his place as Dewan, and in concert with the Nawab, who sat as Nazim, opened the *puneah*, or ceremonial of commencing the annual collections in durbar, held at Motijeel, near Murshidabad.

But though the Civil and Military power of the country and the resources for maintaining it were now in the hands of the East India Company, it was not thought prudent to vest the immediate management of the revenue, or the administration of justice, in the European servants. There was a resident at this time at the Nawab's court, who inspected the management of the Naib Dewan, and a chief, who superintended the collections of the Province of Bihar under the immediate management of a distinguished native, Shitab Roy; but, with these exceptions, there were no other Covenanted servants of the Company in the interior, except those who were administering the zamindari lands of Calcutta and the 24-Parganas, and the ceded districts of Burdwan, Midnapore and Chittagong, which had again been confirmed to the Company in perpetuity by a royal grant.

Supervisors, 1769.

108. In 1769 Supervisors were appointed by Mr. Verelat, with powers of superintending the native officers employed in collecting the revenue or administering justice in different parts of the country; and councils, with superior authority, were in 1770 established at Murshidabad and Patna. The Supervisors were furnished with detailed instructions for obtaining an account of the Provinces; the state produce, and capacity of the lands; the account of the revenues, the cesses, or arbitrary taxes, and of all demands whatsoever which are made on the cultivators; the manner of collecting them, and the gradual rise of every new impost; the regulation of commerce, and the administration of justice. The information elicited by these enquiries showed the internal government to be in a state of profound disorder, and the people to be suffering great oppression. Nevertheless seven years elapsed from the acquisition of the Dewani before the Government deemed itself competent to remedy these defects. It was not till 1772 that the Court of Directors resolved to "stand forth as Dewan, and by the agency of the Company's servants to take upon themselves the entire care and management of the revenue."

Mr. Hastings' Regulations, 1772.

109. By the adoption of a plan then proposed by Mr. Hastings and four Members of his Council, the institutions of the internal government were established as follows:—

Supervisors designated Collectors.

In the Revenue Department at the Presidency, a Board of Revenue was appointed, consisting of the President and Members of Council, with an Accountant-General and assistants. The exchequer and treasury were removed from Murshidabad to Calcutta. In respect to the Provinces, it was resolved that the Supervisors should now be designated Collectors, with each of whom a native officer, chosen by the Board and styled Dewan, was joined in the superintendence of the revenues.

Collectors preside over Civil and Revenue Courts.

Under the regulations framed for the Judicial Department, two courts were instituted for each provincial Division or Collectorship—one by the name of Dewani or Civil Court, for the cognizance of civil causes; the other, named Faujdari or Criminal Court, for the trial of crimes and misdemeanours. The Collector presided over the Civil Court, attended by the provincial native Dewan and other officers. In the Criminal Court the Kazi and Mufti of the district, and two Maulvis, sat to expound the Muhammadan Law, and to determine how far delinquents were guilty of its violation; but it was the Collector's duty to attend to the proceedings of this Court so far as to see that all necessary witnesses were summoned and examined, and that the decision passed was fair and impartial. The Collector had no further concern in the criminal administration. Appeals from these Courts were allowed to two superior Courts established at the chief seat of Government,—one under the denomination of Dewani Sadar Adalat, or Chief Court of Civil Judicature; the other, the Nizamat Sadar Adalat, or Chief Court of Criminal Justice.

Native Criminal Courts.

Sadar Courts.

110. The Chief Civil Court consisted of the President and Members of Council assisted by native officers. In the Chief Criminal Court a Chief Officer

of Justice presided, appointed by the Nazim, and assisted by the head Kazi and Mufti and three eminent Maulvis. Over this latter Court, however, a control was vested in the President and Council, similar to that exercised by the Collectors in the Provinces.

A short experience, however, showed that the superintendence over Criminal justice, when exercised by the President, involved too heavy duties, and in October 1775 the Court of Nizamat Adalat was moved back to Murshidabad, and placed under the control of the well-known Muhammad Reza Khan, who was appointed Naib Nazim.

Collectors withdrawn.

In the meantime (1774) the European Collectors were also recalled from the Provinces, and native amils were appointed in their stead. A new system of police was introduced. Native officers, styled faujdars, were appointed to the fourteen districts or local jurisdictions into which Bengal was divided. The superintendence of the collection of the revenue, removed from the Collectors, was vested in six Provincial Councils, which were established at Calcutta, Burdwan, Dacca, Murshidabad, Dinajpur and Patna. The administration of Civil justice was, on the same principle, transferred to the amils.

Provincial Revenue Councils established, 1774.

Provincial Civil Judges established independent of Revenue Courts, 1780.

111. Vital changes were, however, speedily effected in these arrangements. The constitution of the Dewani Adalat was transformed by the establishment in 1780, in each of the six great Provincial Divisions, of a Court of justice distinct from, and independent of, the Revenue Council. Over this Court a Covenanted servant presided, whose jurisdiction extended over all civil and rent cases. These six divisions were, in their civil aspect, augmented shortly to eighteen, in consequence of the inconvenience experienced from the too extensive jurisdiction of the six before instituted. The Judges of these Courts were wholly unconnected with the Revenue Department, except in the four frontier districts of Chittra (or Hazaribagh), Bhagalpur, Islambad (or Chittagong) and Rangpur, where, for local reasons, the offices of Judge, Magistrate and Collector were vested in the same person, but with a provision that the judicial authority should be considered distinct from, and independent of, revenue functions.

Provincial Revenue Councils abolished: Collectorships reinstituted, 1781.

112. Simultaneously with the extension of the Civil Courts the Provincial Councils were abolished, and all the revenue affairs of the Provinces brought down gradually to the Presidency, there to be administered by five of the most able and experienced of the Civil Servants, under the designation of a "Committee of Revenue." One President of each Provincial Council was, however, to remain officiating as Collector under the Committee of Revenue until further orders, as likewise were the four Judge-Magistrate-Collectors, who had been separately sanctioned in the frontier and least civilized districts.

Civil Judges vested with Executive Magisterial powers, 1781.

113. The establishment of faujdars and thanadars, introduced in 1774, was also abolished in 1781, and the eighteen Civil Judges "were invested with the power, as Magistrates, of apprehending dacoits and persons charged with the commission of any crime or acts of violence within their respective jurisdictions." They were not, however, to try or punish such persons, but "were to send them immediately to the daroga of the nearest Faujdari Court, with a charge in writing setting forth the grounds on which they had been apprehended." They had merely powers to act as an executive police, leaving the trial and the infliction of punishment to the native Muhammadan officials. Provision was at the same time made for cases where, by special permission of the Governor-General and Council, "certain zamindars might be invested with such part of the police jurisdiction as they formerly exercised under the ancient Moghul Government." In such cases the European Judge, in his capacity of Magistrate, the daroga of the Criminal Court and the zamindar, were to exercise a concurrent authority for the prevention of crimes.

Union of the offices of Collector, Civil Judge and Magistrate, 1786.

114. Under the instructions which Lord Cornwallis brought with him from England in 1786, the revenue and judicial institutions of the country were again modified. The designation of the Committee of Revenue was changed to that of Board of Revenue. Its authority and functions were continued. The European Civil Servants superintending the several districts into which the country was divided were each of them vested with the united powers of Collector, Civil Judge and Magistrate. In proposing this union of different authorities in the same person, the Court of Directors were influenced by the consideration of its having "a tendency to simplicity, energy, justice and

economy." They placed on record that they were actuated by the necessity of accommodating "their views and interests to the subsisting manners and usages of the people, rather than by any abstract theories drawn from other countries, or applicable to a different state of things."

It was only in the administration of justice in the *cities* of Murshidabad, Dacca and Patna that District Courts were established, superintended by a Judge and Magistrate.

Function of a Criminal Sessions Court still discharged by Native Officers.

115. The administration of Criminal justice remained, however, vested in the Naib Nazim, or Deputy of the Nawab, to whose Courts, which were superintended by the Muhammadan Law officers, almost all criminals apprehended by the Magistrate were referred for trial. The Collector, in his capacity of Magistrate, could only decide upon the most petty charges. But towards the end of 1790 a very important change took place in this arrangement. It was declared that, with a view "to ensure a prompt and impartial administration of the Criminal Law, and in order that all ranks of people might enjoy security of person and property, the Governor-General in Council has resolved to accept the superintendence of the administration of Criminal justice throughout the Provinces." In conformity with this Resolution the Nizamat Adalat, or Chief Criminal Court of Justice, was again removed from Murshidabad to Calcutta, to consist of the Governor-General and members of the Supreme Council, assisted by the head native Law officers. Four Courts of Circuit, superintended respectively by Covenanted servants of the Company, each with their Muhammadan Law officers, were in 1793 established for the trial of cases not punishable by the Magistrates.

Criminal administration assumed by the British.

Separation of of District Offices: Civil Judge and Magistrate remain united; Collector separated, 1793.

116. Lord Cornwallis, moreover, differing from the Court of Directors, and deeming it incompatible with the principles of his system that revenue officers should decide on suits the cause of which, originating in their own department, might render them not wholly disinterested in the decision, annulled (1793) the judicial power of all officers of the revenue, and transferred the cognizance of all matters, wherein the Government might be concerned, to the Courts of Dewani Adalat. A new Court of Civil Judicature was established in every district. The new Judge was a European Covenanted servant, of higher official rank than the Collector,* uniting in his person the powers of Magistrate as well as of Civil Judge, and controlling the police within the limits of his Division. This arrangement long continued, one officer in each district being Judge and Magistrate, and another Collector.

To the Courts of Justice a Registrar and one or more assistants were appointed from the junior branch of the European Covenanted Service. The assistants were assistants to the Judge and Magistrate in both capacities. As assistants to the Magistrate they could be empowered by him to decide on cases to the same extent that the Magistrate himself was authorised under the Regulations of 1793. The Registrar was empowered to try civil causes not exceeding 200 rupees.

Native Civil Judges, Munsifs, 1793.

117. At the same time Regulation was enacted authorising the appointment of native Commissioners to hear and decide, in the first instance, on suits of personal property not exceeding the value of 50 rupees. These were of three descriptions, viz, *Amins*, or referees; *Salisan*, or arbitrators; and *Munsifs*, or native justices. The referees and arbitrators were usually Kazis appointed by virtue of their offices; the Munsifs were more carefully selected. They were not paid by fixed salary, but by commision on the amount of causes investigated by them. Appeals from their decision lay to the Civil Judge.

Four Provincial Courts of Circuit and Appeal.

118. In order to ensure the hearing of appeals from the Judge, which had previously lain direct to the Governor-General at Calcutta, Lord Cornwallis established, by Regulation V of 1793, four Provincial Courts of Appeal. One was instituted in the vicinity of Calcutta, one at the city of Patna, another at Dacca and the fourth at Murshidabad, each Court being superintended by three Covenanted Civilian Judges. To these Courts a Registrar and one or more covenanted assistants were attached. An appeal lay from them to the Sadar Dewani Adalat, or Governor-General and Council in Calcutta, when the suit exceeded Rs. 5,000 in extent.

* The existing Collectors were, in point of fact, appointed Judges, while their head assistants were appointed to the different Collectorates, for which, said the Government Minute, "they will be found sufficiently qualified."

These Civil Courts were identical with the Courts of Circuit that were simultaneously appointed, and of which notice has been taken above. The same officers, European and Native, were attached to the Courts alike in their Civil and Criminal jurisdictions.

The territorial jurisdictions of these Courts as laid down by Regulation V of 1793 were as follows:—

(1) CALCUTTA DIVISION—

24-Parganas, Burdwan, Jungle Mahals, Midnapore, including the salt districts to the west of the Hooghly River, Jessore, Nadia and the zillas of Calcutta, Serampore, Birbhum.

(2) DACCA PROVINCE—

Dacca, Mymensingh, Sylhet, Tippera, Chittagong, Dacca-Jellalpur.*

(3) MURSHIDABAD DIVISION—

Murshidabad, Bhagalpur, Purnea, Dinajpur, Rangpur, Rajshahi, and the districts under the superintendence of the Commissioner at Cooch Behar, which are not included in the independent territories of the Raja of Cooch Behar.

(4) PATNA DIVISION—

Patna, Ramghur, and the zillas of Behar Proper, Tirhut, Saran, Shahabad.

Changes in the Constitution of the Sadar Court.

119. The Governor-General and Council, who were at this period discharging the duties of both the Sadar Dewani and Sadar Nizamat Adalat, soon found that more of their time was occupied in these functions than could conveniently be spared. Lord Wellesley, moreover, placed it on record that he deemed "it essential to the impartial, prompt and efficient administration of justice, and to the permanent security of the persons and properties of the native inhabitants of these Provinces, that the Governor-General in Council, exercising the supreme legislative and executive authority of the State, should administer judicial functions of Government by the means of Courts of justice distinct from the legislative and executive authority." It was accordingly determined that the Government should relinquish the chief Civil and Criminal jurisdiction, and place it in the hands of a Court of justice, over which were to preside three Judges, the Chief Judge being a member of the Supreme Council and the other two selected members of the Covenanted Civil Service.

Regulation II, 1801.

The Sadar Court remained as the Court of final appeal in this Presidency without any radical modifications until it was united with the Supreme Court in 1862, and both together were amalgamated into the present High Court. The Sadar Court was latterly composed of five or six Covenanted Civilians, more or less, as might be necessary.

The Supreme Court, 1774.

120. The Supreme Court, which was an entirely separate institution, was governed by English Law and administered by three Judges, Barristers-at-Law, appointed by the Crown, of whom the chief was styled Chief Justice. The Supreme Court was established by the Letters Patent which the King was empowered in the Regulating Act to grant, and dated 26th March 1774. It had full local jurisdiction in Calcutta, and also personal jurisdiction over all persons in the employment of the Company, including zamindars, revenue farmers and contractors in the mufassal. This extensive power led to confusion and injustice, and a new Act was passed in 1781, defining and limiting the powers of the Crown Court. In general terms it may be said that till its abolition the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was confined to the limits of the city of Calcutta, between the Hooghly and the Mahratta Ditch, and to the determination of all serious criminal cases in which European British subjects were accused and committed for trial. It was strictly interdicted by law from interfering in matters of revenue.

*The districts of Dacca-Jellalpur and of the city of Dacca were abolished by Regulation V of 1833, and formed into the single district of Dacca. Jellalpur is the name of a pargana in the Faridpur district. The original Dacca-Jellalpur included that zilla, and the head-quarters of the district were in 1812 located at Faridpur In 1833 the independent Joint-Magistracy and Deputy Collectorate at Faridpur was established, and was declared a full Magistracy and Collectorate on the reorganization of 1859.

The High Court Established, 1862.

121. On the 14th May 1862, the High Court of Judicature in Bengal was established by Letters Patent. The Sadar and Supreme Courts were abolished at the same time by Act 24 and 25 Vict., Cap. 104. The combined powers and authorities of the abolished Courts, and their jurisdiction, both over the Provinces and the Presidency town, were vested in the High Court. On the 1st January 1866 fresh Letters Patent were issued, and further provision was made respecting the jurisdiction of the Court.

Changes in the Constitution of the Board of Revenue; Board of Commissioners in the Upper Provinces, 1807.

122. In 1795 laws were published for the newly-acquired Province of Benares. In 1805 the laws and regulations that had been established in the ceded and conquered Povinces on the Upper Ganges* were codified. In 1807 (Regulation X) a Commission was constituted, consisting of two members, for the superintendence of the settlement of these Provinces, and for the general control of the Collectors in the discharge of their several public duties. These Commissioners were vested in those Provinces with all the authority that had hitherto been exercised by the Board of Revenue of Calcutta. By Regulation I of 1809 this Board of Commissioners in the Upper Provinces was declared permanent. At the same time all the powers that up to this period had been exercised by the Calcutta Sadar Board of Revenue in the Province of Benares were transferred to the Board of Commissioners.

Board of Commissioners in Bihar and Benares, 1817.

123. In 1816 (Regulation I) a separate Commissioner was appointed for the superintendence of the revenues of the Province of Benares, and that part of the Province of Bihar which was comprised in the zillas of Bihar, Shahabad, Saran and Tirhut. He was vested with all the authority that had previously been exercised in these Provinces by the Board of Revenue and Board of Commissioners, respectively. By Regulation I of 1817 the authority of the Bihar-Benares Commissioner was extended to the districts of Ramghur, Bhagalpur and Purnea. In the same year it was found advisable to appoint two Commissioners in place of the single officer. "The Board of Commissioners in Bihar and Benares" was accordingly established, and as a special case the general revenues of Dinajpur and Rangpur were also entrusted to this Board. By Regulation I of 1819, the management of the revenues of Dinajpur and Rangpur was replaced under the Calcutta Board of Revenue. The powers of a single Member of the Calcutta Board of Revenue to exercise any and all the powers of Board collectively, and the full powers of a commission of the Board into the interior, were also establishod under Regulation XIII of 1811. The powers thus granted were, in 1871, acted upon by Government, and each Member of the Board is now empowered to exercise the full powers of the Board of Revenue.

Board of Revenue for the Lower Provinces, 1822.

By Regulation III of 1822 considerable changes were effected in these arrangements: (1) the duties, powers and authority of the Board of Commissioners in Bihar and Benares within the districts of Bhagalpur and Purnea were vested again in the Calcutta Board of Revenue, which continued to exercise its powers in the districts subordinate to its authority, and was to be denominated the Board of Revenue for the Lower Provinces; (2) the duties, powers and authority exercised by the Board of Commissioners in the ceded and conquered Provinces within the southern and northern Divisions of Bandalkand and the districts of Allahabad and Cawnpore, were vested in the Board of Commissioners in Bihar and Benares, which continued in like manner to exercise its power in the districts hitherto subordinate to its authority, with the exceptions just named, and was to be denominated the Board of Revenue for the Central Provinces; and (3) the several districts of the ceded and conquered Provinces, with the exception of the districts above specified, were to continue subordinate to the Board of Commissioners, which was to be denominated the Board of Revenue for the Western Provinces. In 1829, as will presently be explained, the powers of the several local Boards of Revenue were made over to the Commissioners of Revenue and Circuit under the control of a Chief or Sadar Board of Revenue at Calcutta.

Board of Revenue for the Central Provinces.

Board of Revenue for the Western Provinces.

* The Province of Benares was added to the Companys' dominions in 1795. By a treaty, bearing date the 20th November 1801, the Nawab Vizier of Oudh ceded the valuable districts of that Province which were officially known as the Ceded Districts in Oudh. The conquered Provinces of the Regulations were conquered from the Marhatta Chieftains, Scindia, the Berar Rajah and others. These Provinces comprehend the principal part of the Doab, or tract of country between the rivers Ganges and Jumna; the country situated on the right bank of the latter river, from Delhi to near its confluence with the Ganges, and the modern Province of Orissa.

Superintendent of Police.

124. A Superintendent of Police was first appointed under Regulation X, 1808, for the Divisions of Calcutta, Dacca and Murshidabad, and under Regulation VIII, 1810, similar arrangements were adopted for Patna, Benares and Bareilly. These officers were abolished by Regulation I of 1829, and their duties were transferred to the Commissioners of Revenue and Circuit. Under Act XXIV of 1837 the Government was again empowered to appoint a Superintendent of Police, and in such case the Commissioner was to cease to exercise any powers in regard to the Magistracy and Police. In Bengal a single Superintendent of Police was accordingly appointed. After a short experience, however, it was found advisable to exempt from his jurisdiction the extra Regulation Provinces of Assam and of the south-western frontier and the Province of Orissa, and to replace them under the Divisional Commissioners. The Division of Chittagong was similarly removed in 1850. On the 23rd March 1854 the Court of Directors sanctioned the abolition of the appointment of Superintendent of Police, and the transfer of his duties to the respective Revenue Commissioners.

125. It has been stated that under the Code of 1793 the Civil Judges were constituted Magistrates of their respective jurisdictions, and that the officers of Judge and Magistrate long remained united. The separation was not actually effected for nearly forty years; but in 1810 a permissive Regulation was passed (Regulation XVI of 1810), by which Government was empowered to make a distinct appointment of a Magistrate.

LORD WILLIAM BENTINCK.

Provincial Courts abolished, 1829. Commissioners of Revenue and Circuit; their powers—Judicial, Revenue and Police.

The system introduced by Cornwallis and Barlow lasted during successive Administrations, with only the necessary modifications engrafted on it by time and circumstances; but under Lord William Bentinck extensive changes were again effected. By Regulation I of 1829 the executive officers of both police and revenue were placed under the superintendence of Commissioners of Revenue and Circuit, each of whom was vested with the charge of four or five districts. Lord W. Bentinck abolished the Provincial Courts, stigmatizing them "as resting-places for those members of the Service who were deemed unfit for higher responsibilities." The Commissioners were appointed to go on circuit as Sessions Judges. The appointment of Superintendent of Police was abolished and vested in the Commissioner, with the fullest police control. The Revenue Boards in the Provinces were also abolished, and their powers vested in the Commissioners under the control of the Sadar Board at Calcutta. The Commissioners were absolutely to superintend both the finance and the Criminal justice of their different divisions.

Civil Judges vested with Sessions powers, 1831-35.

126. These arrangements were not, however, found completely successful, and after a very few years the Governor-General exercised his right of transferring the judicial powers of the Commissioners to the Civil Judges. It was declared (Regulation VII of 1831) competent to Government to invest the Civil Judges with full powers to conduct the duties of the Sessions, and by Act III of 1835 the Government was authorized "to transfer any part or the whole of the duties connected with Criminal justice from any Commissioners of Circuit to any Sessions Judges, and to define the powers which shall be exercised by each respectively." Commissioners, however, still continued to hold judicial powers, and were occasionally so employed. But Regulation VII of 1831 and Act III of 1835 were both repealed by Act VIII of 1868, and under the present law Commissioners have no such powers, as all Sessions Judges and officers invested with powers of Sessions Judges are appointed under the rules of the new Code of Criminal Procedure.

Civil Judges divested of Magisterial powers. Union of Magistrate and Collector, 1831.

127. The Judges under Lord William Bentinck's arrangement held a jail delivery every month. But the Judges were also the Magistrates, and as such it became evident that they were unable to cope with their additional duties. It was considered (1831) necessary to divest them of their Magisterial responsibilities, and these were accordingly transferred to the Collector. This was the creation of the present unit of the administration, the Magistrate and Collector, or executive head, of each district.

Under Regulation VIII of 1833 the appointment of Additional Judges was sanctioned, who were to perform any part of the duties of the District Judges to which they might be appointed.

Native Civil Judges.

128. In 1831 Lord William Bentinck established also a higher grade of native Judgeships. Previously to this period there had been in fact but two

classes of native Judges, with very limited powers and small salaries. The higher class was known as "Sadar Amins," the lower as "Munsifs." The Munsifs, originally denominated Commissioners, had been appointed by Lord Cornwallis to relieve the pressure on the European Judges. In 1803 the office of Sadar Amin was instituted, with a jurisdiction extending to suits of Rs. 100. In 1821, after some intermediate enlargement of the powers of both classes, the Munsifs had been empowered to try cases extending to Rs. 150, whilst the Sadar Amins took cognizance of cases to the amount of Rs. 500. In 1827 the authority of the latter class of officers had been doubled. Lord William Bentinck now established a superior class of judicial officers, known as Principal Sadar Amins, with enlarged powers and higher salaries. They were subsequently authorized to try cases involving property to any amount, and an appeal lay from them to the European Judges. The Small Cause Courts in Bengal were established by Sir John Peter Grant under Act XLII of 1860. In 1867 the Judges of the Small Cause Courts and the Principal Sadar Amins and Munsifs were amalgamated into one service. Small Cause Court Judges and Principal Sadar Amins have since been called indifferently Subordinate Judges, and are eligible alike for Small Cause Court work or for the work of the ordinary Civil Courts.

The office of Uncovenanted Deputy Collector was established under Regulation IX of 1833. The appointment was, in the first instance, open only to "natives of India of any class or religious persuasion," but was extended by Act X of 1843 to all persons of whatever religion, place of birth, descent or colour.

129. Up to 1834 the whole of the Bengal Presidency, including Assam, Benares and the ceded and conquered Provinces of Upper India, was directly administered by the Governor-General of Bengal in Council. In 1834 the Governor-General in Council became Governor-General of India, and Bengal was then governed by the Governor-General in the capacity of Governor of Bengal without a Council. At the same time power was given to create a separate Governor of Agra, which was shortly modified, a Lieutenant-Governor being substituted for a Governor in 1836. After this reform no change was made in the territorial jurisdiction of the Lower Provinces for forty years. In 1874, however, it having been found that the charge of the Province of Assam formed an inconvenient addition to the heavy work arising from the administration of Bengal, with which it had little in common, it was resolved to carry out a change which had been proposed some years previously. In February 1874 the Assam Division, together with the three districts of Sylhet, Cachar and the Garo Hills, was separated from Bengal, and formed into a separate Administration on the model of the Central Provinces and British Burmah. From this time the civil history of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa becomes entirely separate from that of the Upper Provinces on the one hand, and that of Assam on the other.

Establishment of the Subordinate Executive Service, 1843.

130. The machinery of the revenue administration and Civil justice having been strengthened, the expediency of a more extensive employment of uncovenanted agency in the Criminal branch of the Judicial Department forced itself into notice. But it was not till 1843 that an Act was framed by the Legislative Council, empowering the Government to appoint in any district one or more uncovenanted Deputy Magistrates, with or without police powers, as might be determined.

Separation of the office of Magistrate and Collector, 1837.

The union of the offices of Magistrate and Collector, as established under Lord William Bentinck, was, however, only of temporary duration. It also happened that at that time the business of a Collector became engrossing and onerous, while the duties of the Magistracy were comparatively disregarded. The additional work imposed by the operations for the resumption of revenue-free tenures was treated as if it had been permanent. In 1837 Lord Auckland and the Court of Directors sanctioned the separation of the offices of Magistrate and Collector.

The progress of separation of the office of Magistrate and Collector went on gradually until 1845. In that year the Magisterial and Fiscal offices were disunited everywhere except in three districts of Orissa, and in the independent Joint-Magistracies of Pabna, Malda, Bogra, Bhuluah (or Noakhali), Faridpur, Bankura, Barasat and Champaran. The salaries of the separated Collectors

were uniformly fixed at Rs. 23,000 a year, except in Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Birbhum, where they were Rs. 18,000; but the salaries of Magistrates, which it was intended at the time of separation should be in two grades, of Rs. 18,000 and Rs. 12,000, were reduced in 1842, by order of the Court of Directors, to Rs. 10,800 per annum.

At this point may be noticed the creation of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal. In 1854 the Government of Bengal was entrusted to a Lieutenant-Governor, and the personal connection with the Government of India, which had resulted from the union of the offices of Governor-General of India and Governor of Bengal, ceased to exist. Henceforth the Government of India became entirely distinct from that of Bengal.

Reunion of Magistrates and Collectors 1859.

131. In 1859 the offices of Magistrate and Collector were again united. This reunion had been the subject of anxious deliberation in India for six years before it was finally resolved upon. The measure was strongly advocated by Sir Frederick Halliday, the Lieutenant-Governer of Bengal, by Lord Dalhousie, and by Lord Canning, and was as strongly opposed by Sir John Peter Grant. It was sanctioned by Lord Stanley, who was then Secretary of State for India, in his Despatch No. 15, dated 14th April 1859. He directed (1) "that the offices of Magistrate and Collector, where now disunited in Bengal, should be combined in the same person, and that such of the covenanted officers as are now Magistrates, and are not absorbed in the higher office, should be employed as Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, but without any decrease of salary; and (2) that the Joint-Magistrate in each district should ordinarily have the superintendence of the police under the general control of the Magistrate." These orders were rapidly carried out in all the districts of Bengal where the appointments were separate.

The Independent Joint-Magistrates abolished.

At the same time seven of the eight independent Joint-Magistracies already alluded to were established full Magistracies and Collectorates. At first these were offshoots from large districts, and were created as *quasi* subdivisions in the early part of this century, to stem the tide of crime and dacoity in localities remote from the head-quarters station. The Joint-Magistrates of these subdivisions, from exercising a joint jurisdiction with the Magistrate of the district, gradually came to exercise independent Criminal powers, but in revenue matters they never were invested with more than the powers of a Deputy Collector, and the land revenue always continued to be paid at the head-quarters treasury. Of these eight Joint-Magistracies and Deputy Collectorates, four were upon Rs. 18,000 per annum, and four upon Rs. 12,000. At the time of the reunion of the offices of Magistrate and Collector, Barasat was reduced to an ordinary subdivision.

The present Grade of Joint-Magistrate.

132. The present Joint-Magistrates were created by Lord William Bentinck, in order to afford more efficient aid to the Magistrate-Collectors than could be given to them by mere Assistants vested only with the powers of an Assistant under the Regulations. Lord W. Bentinck established two classes of covenanted officers subordinate to the district officer—one, a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector on a salary of Rs. 1,000 a month; the other, a Head Assistant on Rs. 700. The latter was abolished by Government order dated August 16th, 1836, and a second grade of Joint-Magistracy was constituted in its stead on the same salary, but with the full powers of a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector. The first were appointed Magistrates when the separation of the offices had been resolved upon, and now correspond to the first-grade Joint-Magistrates. The salary of the appointment, as has been intimated, was reduced to Rs. 900 a month in 1842.

The Bengal Police Act, 1861.

133. In 1861, shortly after the reunion of Collectorates and Magistracies, the police was established as a separate department under the Magistrate; and District Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Police were appointed to discipline the Force. An Inspector-General and Deputy Inspectors-General were placed at the head of the police to supervise and inspect the Department.

Modification of Grades of Magistrate and Collector, 1860.

At this time the 36 Regulation districts in these Provinces were in charge of Magistrates and Collectors receiving the following salaries:—

In 3 districts ...	Rs. 28,000 per annum.*	In 7 districts ...	Rs. 18,000 per annum.
„ 22 „ ...	„ 23,000 „	„ 4 „ ...	„ 12,000 „

* These three officers were the Magistrate-Collectors of Puri, Balasore, and Cuttack, who were Salt Agents as well.

These salaries were local, the salaries of particular classes being attached to particular districts. To remove the administrative inconveniences which resulted from this arrangement, Sir John Peter Grant proposed in that year the following changes: *firstly*, that the salaries of Magistrates and Collectors be made *personal*, instead of *local*, by throwing these officers into grades; and, *secondly*, that there be only two instead of four such grades or classes of Collector and Magistrate, with corresponding rates of salary. He provided for 20 Magistrate-Collectors in the first grade, on Rs. 23,000 per annum; one Magistrate and one Collector at the 24-Parganas, who each of them drew the full salary of Rs. 23,000; and 15 Magistrate-Collectors in the second grade, on Rs. 18,000—altogether 37 officers. The separate appointments of Magistrate and Collector in the 24-Parganas were amalgamated in April 1865 into a single first-grade Magistrate-Collector. The number was thus reduced to 36. At the same time two officers were taken from the second grade and added to the first grade. There were therefore 23 Magistrate-Collectors sanctioned in the first grade and 13 in the second grade. Subsequently, in 1873, in pursuance of the policy initiated by Sir George Campbell for separating the executive and judicial branches of the Civil Service and equalizing the rates of salary in both, a new gradation was introduced. The 36 Magistrate-Collectors were divided into three grades. The first grade included 15 officers on Rs. 2,250 per mensem, the second grade 15 officers on Rs. 1,800 per mensem, and the new third-grade 6 officers on Rs. 1,500 per mensem.

Since that time several additions and alterations have been made. One appointment has been added to the first grade for the Collector of Customs, Calcutta (in place of the one originally sanctioned in the second grade), one to the second grade for the Commissioner of Excise and Salt, Bengal, and two to the third grade—one for the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, and the other on the formation of the new district of Khulna. In consequence of the absorption of the eight Deputy Commissionerships of Non-Regulation districts with the grades of District Magistrates in 1895, two appointments have been made to the second grade and six to the third grade. The grades were re-adjusted in 1900 in consequence of the re-organisation of the Assam Commission, so as to assimilate the rates of pay of District Officers in Bengal and Assam, and the result has been that one appointment has been removed from the first grade, and two from the second grade, while three appointments have been added to the third grade. Excluding the three special posts (viz., those of Collector of Customs, Calcutta, Commissioner of Excise and Salt, Bengal, and the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal), which may be held by officers of any grade irrespective of the appointments sanctioned in particular grades for them, there are now four officers in the first grade, 15 in the second grade and 16 in the third grade.

In consequence of the heavy duties devolving upon the Commissioner of the Patna Division it had been found necessary, in almost every year since 1883, to appoint for varying periods of the year an additional Commissioner for the Division. Accordingly, in 1897, sanction was accorded by the Secretary of State to the appointment for three years, with effect from the 1st June 1898, of an additional Commissioner in Bengal, to be at the disposal of the Local Government for Patna or any other Division in which his services may be required. On the expiry of this period sanction was accorded to the retention of the appointment for another period of three years.

In consequence of representations made as to the inferiority of the position and prospects of the Judicial Branch of the superior Civil Service as compared with the Executive Branch, sanction was accorded by the Secretary of state, in 1900, to the re-organisation of the grades and salaries of District and Sessions Judges on the following basis:—

		Rs.
3	1st Grade District and Sessions Judges on	3,000
14	2nd „ „ „ „ „	2,500
15	3rd „ „ „ „ „	2,000

All the above has reference to what are called the Regulation Provinces.

Non-Regulation Provinces.

134. The non-Regulation Provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal consist of (1) new conquests or cessions to which the regulations were never extended; (2) tracts of country formerly subject to the general regulations, but which were removed from their operation by special enactments; and (3) semi-independent or tributary estates administered in the Political Department.

These Provinces are now known as the "Scheduled Districts" under Act XIV of 1874. They consist of the following:—

I.—The Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts.

II.—The Hill Tracts of Chittagong.

III.—The Chota Nagpur Division.

IV.—The Sonthal Parganas.

V.—The district of Angul.

First de-regulationizing Law—Regulation X of 1822.

Regulation X of 1822 established the principle that there were races of people within these territories entirely distinct from the ordinary population, to whose circumstances the system of government established by the general regulations was inapplicable. Such were the mountaineers of Bhagalpur, the Paharia community, for the reclaiming of whom special arrangements were carried out by Augustus Cleveland before the introduction of the regular system. The uncertain and semi-barbarous territory on the north-eastern frontier of Rangpur was de-regulationized under Regulation X, 1822. The existing rules for the administration of Civil and Criminal justice were suspended, and a Commissioner was appointed with full power to conclude arrangements with the Chiefs, and to conduct the entire administration of the tract, under the Governor-General in Council. This law was the germ of the late non-Regulation administration.

Cooch Behar.

135. A Commissioner for carrying on the administration of the Cooch Behar State was repeatedly appointed in the last century and the early part of the present century. Finally, in 1863, a Commissioner was appointed during the minority of the Raja. In 1866 Cooch Behar was raised into a non-Regulation Commissionership; and the districts of Darjeeling, from the Bhagalpur Division, and Goalpara and the Garo Hills, which had been under the Assam Division, were placed within the new jurisdiction. At the same time the northern portion of Rangpur was transferred to this Division, and eventually was united with the submontane country ceded by the Bhutias, forming the district of Jalpaiguri. In 1868 the judicial administration of the Goalpara district was placed under the Judicial Commissioner of Assam, the administration in other matters remaining with the Divisional Commissioner. In 1874, on the formation of Assam into a separate Administration, the Cooch Behar Division was abolished as a separate charge, and such of its districts as were still attached to the Government of Bengal were transferred to the Rajshahi Division, thenceforward known for some years as the Rajshahi and Cooch Behar Division. In 1883 the Maharaja attained his majority, and the State was released from the direct control of the Commissioner.

The State is now managed by the Maharaja, with the assistance of a Council of which he is the President, and which is composed of the Superintendent of the State, who is Vice-President, the Dewan, who is Resident Member, and the Civil Judge, who is Judicial Member. The Superintendent of the State is an officer of the Government of India whose services have been lent to the State.

Darjeeling.

136. A part of the hill portion of the district of Darjeeling was ceded by the Raja of Sikkim in 1835. The Morung lowland under the hills and another portion of the hills were taken from him in 1850, in consequence of his having seized and detained in confinement the Superintendent of Darjeeling while travelling peaceably through his country. The portion of the hills known as British Bhutan was ceded by the Bhutias after the Bhutia war, in 1865, and annexed to Darjeeling. The district was placed under the charge of an officer called Superintendent, whose designation has since been changed to that of Deputy Commissioner. The Criminal and Civil Procedure Codes were

extended to Darjeeling in 1863. The police administration of the district was conducted under Regulation XX of 1817 until the 25th May 1864, when Act V of 1861 was introduced.

Hill Tracts of Chittagong.

137. The Hill Tracts of Chittagong were removed from the operation of the general regulations by Act XXII of 1860. The excepted tract was placed under an officer called the Superintendent, and a few short rules were prescribed for his guidance in the administration of Civil and Criminal justice and the collection of revenue. The only laws in force were Act XXII of 1860, Act IV (B.C.) of 1863, and the two Regulations V of 1873 and III of 1881. Owing to the extension of the eastern frontier and the formation of the South Lushai Hills district the Chittagong Hill Tracts district lost much of its political importance, and it was reduced to the status of a subdivision in charge of an Assistant Commissioner who, for administrative facilities, was made immediately subordinate to the Commissioner of the Chittagong Division.

In 1900 Act XXII of 1860 and Bengal Act IV of 1863 were repealed by the Chittagong Hill Tracts Regulation, 1900, and the enactments now in force in those Tracts are given in the schedule attached thereto. The Hill Tracts have again been formed into a district, and the old designation of Superintendent has been restored to the officer in charge of them.

The South Lushai Hills.

138. The South Lushai Hills district was added to the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in 1891, under Act XXII of 1860, as a result of the operations undertaken to put an end to the raids which had been committed by the Lushais. But for administrative reasons it was transferred permanently to the Assam Government, with effect from the 1st April 1898.

Chota Nagpur.

139. The South-Western Frontier Agency was called into existence as a non-Regulation Province after the suppression of the Kol insurrection, in 1831-32, by Regulation XIII of 1833. By this Regulation portions of the Ramgurh district, all the Jungle Mahals, except Senpahari, Shergur, Bishenpur and Dhalbhum, from the Midnapore district, were removed from the operation of the general regulations; and the administration of Civil and Criminal justice, the collection of revenue, the superintendence of the police, the land revenue, customs, excise, stamps and every branch of Government of the excepted tracts were placed under an officer called the Agent to the Governor-General. The Governor-General in Council was declared competent to prescribe any rules he deemed advisable for the guidance of the Agent and the officers subordinate to him.

Subsequently the Tributary Mahals noted in the margin* and Singhbhum were placed under the Agent. Of these Tributary Mahals those which are noted† were attached to the South-Western Frontier Agency of Chota Nagpur Division, and the rest were transferred to the Central Provinces. By Act XX of 1854 the designation of the officer in charge was changed from Agent to Commissioner, and that of his Province from South-Western Frontier Agency to Chota Nagpur. The Deputy, or Judicial Commissioner as he is now styled, was appointed in 1843. The other subordinate appointments were, at that time, two Principal Assistants on Rs. 1,000, two First Class Assistants on Rs. 750, and one Second Class Assistant on Rs. 500.

* Sambalpur, Sonepur, Sarunghur, Suktor, Gangpur, Bamra, Bonai, Rehrakol, Raighur, Patna, Borasamber, Bindra, Nowagurh, Khurriar, Phuljhur, Sirguja, Udaipur, Jushpur, Kores, Chang Bhakar.

† Sirguja, Korea, Udaipur, Chang Bhakar, Jushpur, Gangpur, Bonai.

In 1833 a few short rules were issued by Government for the guidance of the Agent, which directed that, pending the issue of detailed instructions, the Agent and officers subordinate to him were to be guided by the "rules heretofore in force for the conduct of all local duties."

These Criminal rules continued in force till they were superseded by the Criminal Procedure Code (Act XXV of 1861), which was extended to the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division when passed. It was subsequently held, in 1864, that the Code was extended to so much only of the Singhbhum district as is comprised in Dhalbhum and the Kolhan, the remaining estates being administered in the Political Department. The new Code, Act X of 1882, is in force throughout the Division.

As regards the administration of Civil justice, a set of rules was proposed by the Agent at the same time that Criminal rules were laid before Government, but orders on them were suspended pending the promulgation of a Bill

on the subject then under preparation. This Bill was never passed, and till Act VIII of 1859 was extended to the Division, there was no specific Law or rule to guide the procedure of the Civil Courts in the Province, but they followed the regulations, except in points, where some order of the Agent interposed.

From the first creation of the Agency the ordinary laws for the sale of land for debt or arrears of rent were regarded as inapplicable to the Province, and the rules proposed by Captain Wilkinson provided that no sale or alienation, or even mortgage of hereditary or moveable property, was to take place without the sanction of the Agent. For many years this rule was always acted on as regards sales, and formed one of the most peculiar features of the Agency. And in extending the old Civil Procedure Code to the districts of Hazaribagh, Lohardaga and Manbhum, a proviso to this effect was added to the Notification. That Code was not extended to Singhbhum, but was considered in force in Dhalbhum of that district. The new Code of Civil Procedure (Act XIV of 1882) was, however, extended to the scheduled district without any such proviso, and, in June 1882, a Notification was issued, withdrawing (with a small exception) the restrictions that had hitherto been imposed on the sale of immoveable property for debt or arrears of rent. The remainder of Singhbhum *quoad* Civil rules are administered in the Political Department, as are the Tributary Mahals, the appeals from the Chiefs and Deputy Commissioner lying to the Commissioner, not to the Judicial Commissioner and High Court.

In 1891 the Secretary of State for India decided that the Political and Tributary States of Chota Nagpur should be treated as outside British India; and this decision made it necessary to define the powers which the Chiefs might be left to exercise within their territories in accordance with existing treaties, past legislation and established custom, and the residuary jurisdiction in matters Civil, Criminal and Revenue, which it was necessary to reserve to the British Government. *Sanads* were accordingly issued to the Chiefs of the seven Tributary States, as also to those of the two Political States of Seraikella and Kharsawan, defining their powers and their relations with the British Government. Under the terms of their *sanads* the Chiefs try in their Courts all criminal cases occurring in their States excepting those in which Europeans are concerned, and heinous offences such as murder, homicide, dacoity, etc., and they are bound to consult the Commissioner in all important matters of adminstration and to comply with his wishes. A notification has at the same time been issued regulating the powers of the British officers in respect of criminal cases arising in the Native States of Chota Nagpur.

140. The enquiry into the causes of the Sonthal insurrection, in 1855, having brought to light the unsuitability of the regulation system to the tract of country now designated the Sonthal Parganas, inhabited by the Sonthals and other rude tribes, who are far behind the Bengalis in civilization, these Parganas were exempted from the operation of the general regulations by Act XXXVII of 1885, except in regard to civil suits above Rs. 1,000 in value, the collection of revenue in permanently-settled estates, the sale of lands for arrears of revenue, &c. **Sonthal Parganas.**

The excepted tract was placed under the Commissioner of the Bhagalpur Division, assisted by a Deputy Commissioner and a number of Assistant and Extra Assistant Commissioners.

In 1856 a few simple rules for Civil and Criminal administration were laid down for the guidance of the Sonthal officers.

The rules in regard to Criminal matters remained in operation till 1862, when the Penal Code was introduced; and although the Criminal Procedure Code was not formally extended to these Parganas, the Sonthal officers were directed to act in accordance with its spirit. The Sonthal Parganas drifted more or less under the ordinary law and procedure of the regulation districts; the Rent Law, the Civil Procedure Code, the Stamp Act, and other Acts were considered to be in force, and the Deputy Commissioner was practically transformed into Judge. In 1871, however, serious difficulties arose in Sonthalia, and it was felt that the Parganas really required a peculiar and simpler form of administration than the rest of Bengal. The Lieutenant-Governor recommended that they should be de-regulationized and brought within the scope of

the Act 33 Vic., Cap. 3. This measure received the assent of the Governor-General and the Secretary of State, and a special regulation for the peace and good government of the Parganas was sanctioned.

Later on it was found necessary, in order to remedy the chaos of jurisdiction which had arisen, to pass a further Regulation (V of 1893) in which the status of the Civil Courts was clearly defined. In regard to criminal jurisdiction this Regulation constituted the Southal Parganas a Sessions Division, the Court of the Deputy Commissioner the Court of Sessions of the Division, and the Deputy Commissioner the Judge of the Court of Sessions. It also provided that the High Court at Calcutta should (1) exercise jurisdiction in regard to European British subjects, (2) deal with all cases in which sentences of death have been passed, and (3) hear all appeals from orders of acquittal. In 1899 a regulation amending Regulation V of 1893, came into force. The new Regulation constituted the Court of the Sessions Judge of Birbhum the Court of Sessions for the Sonthal Parganas Sessions Division, and the Sessions Judge of Birbhum the Judge of the Court of Sessions, the powers of a Sessions Judge exercised by the Deputy Commissoner being withdrawn. It further provided that the High Court at Calcutta, in addition to its jurisdiction under the Regulation of 1893, shall exercise appellate and revisional jurisdiction in respect of all Sessions cases tried by the Judge of Birbhum, and that the Deputy Commissioner shall have appellate jurisdiction over the subordinate Courts of the district, while the Commissioner shall have appellate jurisdiction over the Deputy Commissioner and revisional jurisdiction over all the Courts of the district.

Tributary Mahals of Orissa.

141. The Tributary Mahals of Orissa were exempted from the operation of the regulations by sections 36, 13 and 11 of Regulations XII, XIII and XIV of 1805. This exemption was recognized on the ground of expediency only, and it was held that there was nothing in the nature of the connection with the proprietors that would preclude their being brought under the ordinary jurisdiction of the Courts, if it should ever be thought advisable.

The office of Superintendent was established in 1814, and he as directed to endeavour to establish such control over the conduct of the zamindars as might prevent the commission of crimes and outrages.

Regulation XI of 1816 appears to be the only law by which the Superintendent was invested with any judicial authority, and by that law claims to inheritance and succession among the Rajas were disposed of.

In 1821 the Government ruled that the interference of the Superintendent should be chiefly confined to matters of a political nature; to the suppression of feuds and animosities prevailing between the Rajas of adjoining Mahals, or between the members of their families, or between the Rajas and their subordinate feudatories; to the correction of systematic oppression and cruelty practised by any of the Rajas, or by their officers, towards the inhabitants; to the cognizance of any apparent gross violation by them of their duties of allegiance and subordination; and generally to important points which, if not attended to, might lead to violent and general outrage and confusion, or to contempt of the paramount authority of the British Government.

The Penal Code was declared applicable to the Tributary States by an order of the Government of India, dated the 18th December 1860.

Under orders of the Government of Bengal, dated the 11th March 1863, the Criminal authorities were directed to be guided in their proceedings as closely as possible by the spirit of the Criminal Procedure Code.

In 1888, the Secretary of State for India accepted the view that the Tributary Mahals of Orissa did not form part of British India, and, consequently, it became necessary to take steps to define the powers which the Chiefs of those Mahals or States could safely be left to exercise within their territories in accordance with existing treaties, past legislation and established custom, and the residuary jurisdiction in matters Civil, Criminal and Revenue required to be reserved to the British Government. In 1891, a Notification, No. 1363 I., dated 26th March 1891, was published in the *India Gazette* appointing the Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals, Orissa, for the time being, to exercise the powers of a Political Agent under chapters IV and V of the Foreign Jurisdiction and Extradition Act XXI of 1897 for the 17 Native States in Orissa. In 1892 another Notification No. 3431 I., dated 5th September 1892, was

published in the *Gazette of India* providing for the exercise by British officers of jurisdiction in the Tributary Mahals of Orissa, and laying down that each Assistant Superintendent, or *ex-officio* Assistant Superintendent, should have jurisdiction over the whole of the Mahals and exercise that jurisdiction, as to local limits, under orders issued from time to time by the Bengal Government. In 1893 an Act (XI of 1893) was passed to repeal certain enactments relating to the Tributary Mahals of Orissa, to indemnify certain persons, to validate acts done by them in, or in relation to, the said Mahals and to admit of certain sentences passed in those Mahals being carried into effect in British India. In 1894 new *sanads* were issued to the Orissa Chiefs, laying down the position assigned to them in consequence of the decision that the Mahals were not British India and prescribing their duties and the powers of the British officers connected with their States. Under the terms of the *sanad* the Chiefs can try in their Courts all criminal cases occurring in their States excepting those in which Europeans are concerned and heinous offences, such as murder, homicide, dacoity, robbery, etc. These cases they are required to refer for disposal to the Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals or to such of his Assistants as he may indicate. The Chiefs are bound to consult the Superintendent in all important matters of administration and to comply with his wishes.

The *kila* of Banki has been annexed to the Regulation district of Cuttack. The estate of Angul and the Khondmals have been formed into a separate district, for which a special Regulation, No 1 of 1894, under 33 Vic., Cap. 3, sec. 1, has been passed providing for the peace and government of the district.

The district now consists of two subdivisions, viz., the Sadar or Angul subdivision, and the Khondmals subdivision. The enactments now declared to be in force in the district are given in the schedule attached to the Regulation, but the Local Government is empowered by the Regulation to declare, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council and by a Notification in the *Calcutta Gazette*, any other enactment or any part thereof to be in force in the district in addition to those comprised in the schedule.

Government of Bengal.

142. The separation of the Government of Bengal from the Government of India and the United Provinces, and from the Administration of Assam, has been already noticed in the course of this narrative; but it will be convenient to recite here more exactly the origin of the present form of government.

The Constitution, Origin, and Extent of the Lieutenant-Governor's Authority.

The Bengal Presidency was divided into two portions by Act of Parliament in 1834, the titles selected being "Fort William in Bengal" and "Agra." Agra was to be placed under a separate Governor, but the Governor-General of Bengal (created by this same Statute Governor-General of India) was declared to be the Governor of Fort William in Bengal. It was left optional with the Court of Directors either to appoint a Council to assist the newly-created Governor, or to leave the executive government to be administered by such Governor alone; and the Governor or Governors in Council were to "have all the rights, powers, duties, functions, immunities whatsoever, not in anywise repugnant to this Act, which the Governors of Fort St. George and Bombay, in their respective Councils, now have in their respective Presidencies."

Subdivision of Bengal Presidency, 1834.

Governor of Agra.

Governor-General appointed Governor of Bengal.

The Governor-General was also empowered to appoint a Deputy Governor from among the ordinary Members of his Council, who would be invested with all the powers and perform all the duties of the Government during his absence.

Deputy Governor of Bengal.

In 1835 another Act was passed, which declared that, whereas much difficulty had arisen in dividing Bengal into two Presidencies, "and the same would be attended with a large increase of charge," the Court of Directors might suspend the execution of so much of the said Act.

By section 2 the Governor-General in Council was authorized to "appoint a Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, now under the presidency of Fort William in Bengal, and from time to time declare and limit the extent of the territories so placed under such Lieutenant-Governor, and the extent of the authority to be exercised by such Lieutenant-Governor."

This power of suspension was exercised, and the formal division of the Bengal Presidency into two separate and distinct Presidencies, once arrested, has never been again carried out. On the 29th February 1836 the first Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces was appointed "with the same powers as have, heretofore, been exercised by the Government of Agra."

Lieutenant-Governor of North-Western Provinces, 1836.

Appointment of Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, 1854.

Bengal remained under the Governor-General as Governor, his place during his occasional absence being supplied by a Deputy Governor appointed from among the Members of his Council, till 16 and 17 Vic., Cap. 95, was passed. Section 15 of that Act continued the power vested in the Directors to make Agra a separate Presidency or leave it under a Lieutenant-Governor; and section 16 empowered them also to declare "that the Governor-General of India shall not be Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, but that a separate Governor shall be appointed, and until such Governor be appointed the Directors may authorise the Governor-General in Council to appoint any servant of the said Company, who shall have been ten years in their service in India, to the office of Lieutenent-Governor, * * and to declare and limit the extent of the authority of the Lieutenant-Governor to be so appointed." The appointment by 21 and 22 Vic., Cap. 106, section 29, is now made subject to the approbation of His Majesty.

On the 12th October 1853 the Court of Directors authorised the appointment of a Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and in Home Department Resolution No. 415 of 28th April following, the Hon'ble Mr. F. J. Halliday was appointed first Lieutenant-Governor.

Territorial Jurisdiction.

Paragraph 7 of this Resolution fixed the territorial jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor, which was to be "co-extensive with the jurisdiction which has, heretofore, been exercised by the Governor of Bengal, with the exception of the Tenasserim Provinces, which, like the adjoining Province of Pegu, shall be placed directly under the Governor-General in Council."

Extent of Authority.

Paragraph 8 fixed the extent of his authority. It was to "correspond in all respects with the authority that has been exercised by the Lieutenant-Governors of the North-Western Provinces."

143. Practically the Lieutenant-Governor for a long time exercised the same powers in civil matters as the Governors in Council of Madras or Bombay, though subject, in some respects, to somewhat closer supervision by the Supreme Government. Since the inauguration of the policy of financial decentralization by Lord Mayo, in 1871, large increases have been made to the powers and responsibilities of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Government of Bengal now stands practically in the same relation towards the Government of India as any other Local Government, the only difference being as regards the Governments of Madras and Bombay. These two Local Governments still possess a certain nominal authority in military matters, and are empowered to communicate direct with the Secretary of State in a few cases of minor importance. The development of the decentralization policy since 1877 has still further increased the powers of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Government of Bengal, in common with the other Local Governments, now forms an *imperium in imperio*. The Lieutenant-Governor possesses complete authority in all the Departments of the Civil Administration. Subject to certain limitations, the Government of Bengal now exercises, in respect of Provincial revenue and expenditure, all the powers exercised by the Government of India before the introduction of the system of Provincial finance, these powers being necessarily limited to the powers possessed by the Government of India. The Lieutenant-Governor cannot impose any additional taxation or make any change in any existing system of revenue management; no class or grade of officers may be created or abolished, nor can he raise or reduce the pay of any class or grade of officers. These and other important matters have to be referred to the Government of India. But the Lieutenant-Governor may create, modify or abolish an appointment on a salary not exceeding Rs. 250 per mensem. He appoints to all offices other than those which are recruited direct from England; his orders are final in all matters connected with the Civil Administration of the Province; and he has the power of granting a reprieve in criminal cases in which a death sentence has been passed.

Form of Administration.

Administrative system. Regulation and Non-Regulation districts.

144. The province is divided into (1) districts subject to the general Regulations and Acts; (2) tracts known as the Scheduled Districts, to which all the Regulations and Acts do not apply of their own force, but to which they may be extended at the discretion of Government; and (3) semi-independent and Tributary States, administered or partly administered by British officers. Under the second head come the Sonthal Parganas, the district of Angul in Orissa, the Hill Tracts of Chittagong, and the districts of Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Palamau, Manbhum, and Singhbhum, in which many of the general laws are at present in force. Under the third head come the Tributary Mahals of Orissa and Chota Nagpur.

Calcutta.

145. The capital of the province (Calcutta) has, like the other Presidency towns, a special organization of its own. In civil suits above a certain limit as well as in all Sessions trials, it is under the original jurisdiction of a branch of the High Court, in which only English and Irish Barristers and Scotch Advocates can practise. The Small Cause Court of Calcutta is of purely local jurisdiction, and is regulated by a special Act. A separate establishment of Police is under the control of a Commissioner, assisted by a Deputy Commissioner. Criminal justice is administered by two stipendiary Magistrates of Police, a Municipal Magistrate appointed to try exclusively offences under the Municipal Act, and by several Benches of Honorary Magistrates. In revenue matters also the city forms part of no district, though it is subordinate to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division. Customs and Stamps are under the direct superintendence of the Board of Revenue. The system of Municipal Administration at present in force in the city will be found described in the paragraph on 'Municipalities.'

Civil Service.

146. The Public Civil Service was reorganised in accordance with the recommendations made by the Public Service Commission, accepted with certain modifications by the Secretary of State for India in his despatch of the 12th September 1889, and now consists of Members of the Indian Civil Service, Members of the Provincial Civil Service and Members of the Subordinate Civil Service. In addition there were, on the 31st March 1902, eight Civilians who had been appointed in India without examination under Statute 33 Vic., Chapter 3. These Statutory Civilians, as they are called, will, however, in course of time disappear, as no new appointments will be made under the Statute.

The old Haileybury men nominated by the Court of Directors have practically disappeared, and the Civil Service of India is now, with one exception, composed of men who have been selected after open competition in England. Amongst them there were, on the 31st March 1902, sixteen native gentlemen. The principal appointments held in Bengal at present by members of the Civil Service of India are the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, five Judgeships of the High Court, the Board of Revenue, the Regulation and non-Regulation Commissionerships, the Judicial Commissionership, the principal Secretariat appointments, the Legal Remembrancership, the Opium Agencies, the posts of Inspector-General of Police, Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, Commissioner of Excise, Director of Land Records, Accountant-General and Collector of Customs, the District and Sessions Judgeships (except six held by Statutory Civilians and members of the Provincial Service), the District Magistrate-Collectorships (except four held by Statutory Civilians and members of the Provincial Service) and practically all the Joint-Magistracies and Assistant Magistracies of the interior. Under present arrangements Civilians are called upon at the end of the 12th year of their service to decide whether they elect for the Executive or Judicial branch of the Civil Service, and are posted to the one or the other after due consideration of their wishes and the public interests.

Provincial Civil Service.

147. The Bengal Provincial Civil Service includes all those officers who belonged to the higher grades of what were, formerly, known as the Judicial and Executive branches of the Uncovenanted Civil Service, and who are almost exclusively natives of India. The principal appointments held at

present by members of this Service are the Inspector-Generalship of Registration, 1 District and Sessions Judgeship, 2 District Magistrate Collectorships, the Deputy Commissionership of Angul, the Commissionership in the Sundarbans, the posts of Municipal Magistrate, Calcutta, and Deputy Collector, Calcuttta, the Small Cause Court Judgeships outside the Presidency Town, the Subordinate Judgeships, the Munsifships, and the Deputy Magistracies and Deputy Collectorships. The following appointments which were formerly reserved for members of the Civil Service of India have now been thrown open to members of the Provincial Bengal Civil Service :—

Heads of Districts	4
District Judges	6
Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue	1
Under-Secretary to Government	1

Seven posts of Joint and Assistant Magistrates similarly reserved for members of the Civil Service of India have also been absorbed in the grades of the Executive branch of the Provincial Service, which has been reorganised from time to time and now consist of 385 members, divided into 8 grades with pay varying from Rs. 200 to Rs. 800 per mensem. In 1896 the experiment of appointing 3 Subordinate Judges to act as Assistant Sessions Judges was tried, and as the system proved a success, it has been continued.

Admission to the Executive branch of the Provincial Civil Service is obtained by competitive examination in India, by selection from among candidates who have obtained one-third marks and by promotion from the Subordinate Civil Service. Candidates for the Judicial service are admitted on the nomination of the High Court, and, among other qualifications, are required to have taken the B.L. degree or to have passed some such analogous examination.

Subordinate Civil Service.

148. The Subordinate Civil Service includes the posts formerly known as Sub-Deputy Collectorships, and any other appointments which the Lieutenant-Governor may, from time to time, declare specially to be included in it. Admission is by selection from among candidates who obtain not less than one-third marks at the competitive examination, by examination combined with nomination, and by selection from among officers already in Government Service. The members of the Subordinate Civil Service are chiefly employed on settlements, cess revaluations, partitions, collection of rent in Government estates, superintending excise distilleries, &c., whilst the majority are also vested with 3rd class Magisterial powers, and take no small share in the Judicial work of the mufassal. Several also are in charge of subdivisional sub-treasuries.

Executive Administration

149. The unit of the Executive Administration, whether in Regulation or Non-Regulation Districts, is the District Officer—in the one case styled Magistrate-Collector, in the other Deputy Commissioner. The ordinary district jails are placed in the charge of a Superintendent, usually the Civil Surgeon, while the Magistrate pays periodical visits of inspection. All District Officers are *ex-officio* Registrars. As *ex-officio* Chairmen of the District Boards, they have control over local education, and are charged with the execution and administration of all local public works. The District Officer is the executive chief and administrator of the tract of country committed to him, and is, or ought to be, supreme over everyone and everything, except the proceedings of the Courts of justice. As District Magistrate he is also head of the Department of Criminal justice, which is charged with the trial of small cases and the enquiry into more important cases previous to trial at Sessions, although he generally rather distributes and superintends this work than does a large share of it himself.

At the disposal of the District Officer are the subordinate Magisterial, Police and Revenue authorities. The District Superintendent of Police, who is the head of the Police under the Magistrate, confines his attention to Police administration and kindred subjects; but the Subordinate Magistrates combine

Revenue with their Magisterial functions. The Subdivisional Officers, who are Joint, Assistant and Deputy Magistrates in charge of divisions of districts, exercise in their own jurisdictions the delegated power of the District Officer except in matters of Police, over which they have only judicial and no executive control.

Above the District Magistrates are the Divisional Commissioners. Their duties are principally those of supervision. In almost all matters they exercise a general superintendence, and especially in the Revenue Department they keep a control over the Collectors' proceedings. Commissioners are the channels of communication between the local officers and Government, sifting, collating and bringing together, in a compact form, the information they receive. In Revenue matters the Commissioners are, in their turn, subject to the orders of the Board of Revenue, in Calcutta: in other matters they are under the Government direct.

The Civil Secretariat consists of the Chief Secretary, who is in charge of the Judicial, Politicial, and Appointment Departments; the General and Revenue Secretary, the Financial and Municipal Secretary, three Under-Secretaries, and one Assistant Secretary.

150. In 1871-72 Lord Mayo introduced a system of Provincial decentralization, by which the control of a few of the spending departments of Government was made over to the Local Government. Since that time great developments in this system have taken place, and at the present time the Provincial Government has been entrusted with the financial management of almost every branch of revenue and expenditure arising in the Province. The whole of the receipts under the heads of Courts of Law, Police, Jails, Marine, Education, Medical, Cinchona, Emigration, Irrigation, Navigation, Civil Works and Provincial Rates (Public Works Cess) have been made over in their entirety to the Local Government, together with their corresponding charges. In addition to these it receives three-fourths of Stamp receipts, one-half of the receipts from Assessed Taxes, Excise, Forests, Registration, twelve per cent. on the Land Revenue collected from Government estates, and one-fourth of the receipts under all other sub-heads of Land Revenue, excepting recoveries from zamindars and raiyats on account of survey and settlement in Bihar. It is also responsible for one-half of the expenditure on Assessed Taxes, Excise, Forests and Registration, and for three-fourths of the Stamp expenditure, while it has to bear the whole of the charges under Land Revenue, excepting the cost of survey and settlement in Bihar. In all cases the fullest authority in all the internal details of the departments mentioned above has accompanied the transfer of financial interest. Financial administration.

151. The revenues of the Province of Bengal are derived from the following principal sources:—The land revenue, the monopoly of opium, excise on spirits and intoxicating drugs, stamps, salt, income-tax, the customs duties, and the Public Works cess levied under Act IX (B.C.) of 1880. Of these, land revenue, excise, stamps, and the income-tax are managed by the District Collector and his establishments, but the opium and the customs revenue are under special departments. The administration of the salt revenue in the Orissa Division and in certain districts in which the Indian Salt Act, XII of 1882, is in force, is under a special department: elsewhere it is managed by the Collector of the district. In the districts of the Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions the manufacture of saltpetre is conducted under the provisions of the Indian Salt Act, XII of 1882, under the supervision of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department; such manufacture as is carried on within the municipal limits of the town of Calcutta is conducted in accordance with the provisions of the same Act, under the supervision of the Bengal Salt Department. The Public Works cess is levied conjointly with the road cess by the District Collector by means of an establishment which is paid for partly from Provincial revenues and partly from local funds. Revenue administration.

The District Collector is controlled by the Revenue Commissioner, and in excise and salt administration by the Commissioner of Excise and Salt; each of these officers is subject to the orders of the Board of Revenue. The Board consists of two members, who in administrative matters exercise full powers independently of one another, each member being the head of the departments

in his charge. The Senior Member devotes his undivided attention to the department of land revenue: the Junior Member has charge of all other sources of revenue.

The opium branch of the revenue is under the management of two Opium Agents—the one stationed at Patna and the other at Ghazipur; but although the latter station lies in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, both officers are subordinate to the Government of Bengal. The Bihar Agent is a member of the Civil Service of the Lower Provinces; the Opium Agent, Benares, is appointed from among the officers belonging to the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. The Opium Agents are aided by a local agency of Factory Superintendents and Sub-Deputy Opium Agents. The general superintendence of the opium revenue, under the direction of the Executive Government, is vested in the Junior Member of the Board.

At the head of the Calcutta Custom House is a special Collector, who is aided by a number of Assistants and Preventive Officers. On the 10th March 1894 the Customs import duties, which had been abolished (except on arms, ammunition, liquors, opium, and salt) were for the most part re-imposed, the most important exceptions being cotton-yarn and piece-goods, which were exempted from duty. On the 27th December 1894 imported cotton goods were, however, made dutiable, and a countervailing excise duty was imposed on some classes of cotton goods manufactured in India. A further change was introduced on the 3rd February 1896, when twist and yarn were made free, and the import duty on cotton piece-goods was reduced from 5 to 3½ per cent. Another important change in the tariff was effected by Act XIV of 1899, enabling a countervailing import duty to be levied on bounty-fed sugar. Lastly, a special import duty on sugar in certain cases was imposed by Act VIII of 1902. A duty (generally one anna per imperial gallon) was imposed on petroleum in the year 1888.

The port next in importance to Calcutta is Chittagong, where also the work in connection with the Customs Department is carried on by a special officer, under the supervision of the Commissioner, who is the local Chief Customs Officer. The other minor Custom Houses at Cuttack, Puri and Balasore are under the control of the local district officers.

Department of Public Works.

152. There are two branches of the Public Works Department in this Province, viz., (*i*) Roads and Buildings, which also deals with Railways and with Miscellaneous Public Improvements, and (*ii*) Irrigation. There is a Chief Engineer in each Branch, two Under-Secretaries and one Assistant Secretary. In addition to the ordinary staff of Executive Engineers, there is an Electrical Engineer, who is under the orders of the Chief Engineer, Roads and Buildings, and a Sanitary Engineer, who works under the Sanitary Board, Bengal. Both Chief Engineers are members of the Sanitary Board.

The Imperial and Provincial buildings and roads are partly under the charge of Executive Engineers of the Department and partly under the charge of the Engineers to the District Boards.

There are six Circles in the Roads and Buildings Branch, three of which are held by Superintending Engineers and three by Executive Engineers, who are designated Inspectors of Works. The Superintending Engineers have control of Public Works divisions held by Executive Engineers, who carry out Imperial and Provincial Civil Works. They also act as Inspectors of Works under the Local Self-Government Act in their own Circles. The Inspector of Works is the professional adviser of the Chairman and of the Divisional Commissioner as regards the Public Works of the District Boards. He also supervises all works, whether Provincial or Local, carried out by District Boards.

There are four Circles in the Irrigation Branch, each of which is held by a Superintending Engineer. In Irrigation Circles the Executive Engineers also carry out the works of the Roads and Buildings Branch within the limits of their Divisions. The Superintending Engineers of Irrigation Circles also act as Inspectors of Works with regard to Local Works in the districts comprised in their Circles. There are two Revenue Divisions which deal with the assessment and collection of water-rates on the Midnapore and Orissa Canals, and one such Division which deals with collections only on the Sone Canals. These Divisions are held by Deputy Collectors who are under control of the Superintending Engineers.

The Public Works in Sikkim are carried on under the orders of the Political Officer, with the assistance of an Assistant Engineer and a small subordinate staff.

Communications.

In Bengal the roads forming main lines of communication are classed partly as Provincial and partly as District Roads. Provincial roads are maintained from Provincial Funds; they are in charge generally of the Public Works Department, and in some cases are under the District Engineers. The District Roads are maintained chiefly from Local Funds and are under the control of the District Boards. Some assistance is given to the District Funds from Provincial revenues for the construction of new roads; more especially to enable the District Boards to construct roads required as feeders to the railway lines. Minor roads are classed as Municipal, Local Fund, and Military or Cantonment Roads.

Railways.

153. The railways in Bengal are now under the direct administration of the Government of India, with the exception of tramways or light railways, which are controlled by the Local Government. The tramways which are at present at-work are the Howrah-Amta, 28·69 miles; the Howrah-Sheakhalla, 19·75 miles; the Ranaghat-Krishnagar, 20·25 miles; and the Tarkessur-Mogra, 31·12 miles.

Irrigation Department.

154. There are three large irrigation systems in Bengal, viz., the Sone, Orissa and Midnapore canals. Each of these systems is under the control of a Superintending Engineer, with Executive Engineers in charge of Divisions, who are responsible for the maintenance of the canals and the conduct of irrigation operations. There is a separate establishment for the collection of Irrigation revenue. In the Orissa and Midnapore canals there is a Revenue Division in charge of a Special Deputy Collector, who is under the Superintending Engineer. He is responsible for the assessment and collection of water-rates.

In the Sone the assessments are made by the Irrigation Subdivisional Officers and the collections by a Deputy Collector and his establishment under the orders of the Superintending Engineer. The principal crops for which irrigation is utilized are as follows:—On the Sone Canal—Sugarcane, wheat, barley, rice and gram; on the Orissa Canal—Sugarcane and rice; on the Midnapore Canal—Rice.

Various systems of leases for the supply of water are in force. At present by far the largest proportion of the leases is for five or seven years. The irrigated area is divided into blocks, the lease of all the lands in each block being arranged to lapse in the same year. The period of lease of these blocks is fixed in order that as nearly as possible leases for an equal area may expire each year. The following is a brief account of the system obtaining in the Sone circle, which may be taken as typical of all the large irrigation projects in the Province. Water is supplied to the cultivators on application on a prescribed form, the year being divided into three seasons, that is, hot weather, from 26th March to 25th June; *kharif*, 26th June to 25th October, and *rabi*, from 26th October to 25th March, a date is fixed for each season and a lease or permit granted for that season is only in force for that particular period. Besides these season leases, there are long-term leases, or leases for a period of seven years, which are granted at a somewhat reduced rate, and are in force from the 26th of June to the 25th of March of the next year. These long-term leases are only granted for compact blocks defined by well-marked boundaries of such a nature as clearly to distinguish leased from the adjoining unleased lands, and also so situated that unleased lands will not be ordinarily irrigated by water supplied for the land included in the block. These boundaries are mentioned in the application for the lease, on receipt of which a special report is submitted to the Subdivisional Canal Officer who, if the lease is likely to be approved, issues orders for the block to be measured, when a detailed "*khasra*" or measurement of each cultivator's holding is made. The lease is finally approved by the Divisional Canal Officer, who issues the permit, but before this can be done, every cultivator, who has fields within the block, must sign his name against the area which has been measured, and which will be assessed in his name. In order to admit of a lease getting water for the season, a provisional permit is granted for the season on the area originally applied for; this permit is cancelled when the long-lease permit is finally granted. Fields which cannot be ordinarily irrigated, or for which canal water is not ordinarily

required, can be excluded from the block, such fields being duly noted in the "*khasra*" or measurement paper. In these long-term leases water-rates are charged for the area measured and accepted by the cultivators, whether water be required or not; and the channel by which the area is irrigated must be registered as well as the name of its owner. In *rabi* and "hot weather" leases, from the 26th October to 25th March and 26th March to 25th June, water is supplied on application and water-rates levied on the actual areas irrigated, and not necessarily on those specified in the application. In order to assist the Canal Department as far as possible in regulating and distributing the water to the different cultivators named in the leases, "lumbardars" or headmen are appointed. These are influential men of the village, and are appointed on the approval of the majority of the cultivators concerned. Their duty is to assist in measurements, give in the names of the cultivators of the different holdings, and see that water is properly distributed over the leased area. For these duties they are paid a commission of 3 per cent. on the total assessment on long leases and 2 per cent. on season leases.

Marine Department.

155. The Marine Department has been under the control of the Public Works Department of the Secretariat since February 1888. The Port Officer of Calcutta is the principal executive officer of the Government in this Department. Besides discharging the duties of Shipping Master, and controlling the Bengal Pilot Service, he is mainly responsible for the working of the Merchant Shipping Acts, and is required periodically to visit and report on the out-ports. He is also referred to generally in matters on which an opinion on marine matters is required by the Government. The management of the affairs of the Port of Calcutta and its approaches is vested in the Port Commissioners. They have thus the entire control of the river from the northern boundary of the port to the sea. The management of the Port and of the Port Fund of Chittagong is in the hands of the Port Commissioners of that place. The financial position of the Trust is at present not satisfactory, but the opening of the Assam-Bengal Railway, and the jetty recently constructed will, it is hoped, help to increase the revenue of the Port at no distant date. The ports in the province of Orissa had hitherto been in charge of two Port Officers, viz., the Port Officer of False Point and Cuttack and the Port Officer of Chandbally and Balasore. This arrangement has been found to be inconvenient, and productive of unnecessary expense, and the management of the ports has, therefore, been entrusted to one Port Officer, who holds the designation of "Port Officer of the Cuttack and Balasore Ports."

Other Departments.

156. The Education Department is presided over by an officer styled the Director of Public Instruction: the working of the Department is more fully explained in the chapter "General System of Public Instruction."

The Medical Department is managed by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, who, though appointed by the Government of India, is under the orders of the Local Government. The Sanitary and Vaccination Departments are directed by the Sanitary Commissioner. This officer is also appointed by the Government of India, but is under the orders of the Local Government. Since 1898 the offices of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals and Sanitary Commissioner have been amalgamated, and the latter officer, who, departmentally, is subordinate to the former, has been given the additional title of Deputy Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals.

A Sanitary Board, consisting of the Junior Member of the Board of Revenue as President and the Chief Engineer in the Irrigation Department and the Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal as members was constituted as an experimental measure in 1890. An Engineer to the Board was also appointed temporarily, and his duties were to accompany the Sanitary Commissioner on tour and advise him on engineering matters. In 1894 the Engineer to the Board was appointed permanently to be Sanitary Engineer, Bengal, and *ex-officio* Secretary to the Sanitary Board. His duties are to advise Government, the Sanitary Board and all Municipal and Local authorities on projects and designs of sanitation, and, if required, to draw up such projects. In 1896 the Chief Engineer in the Public Works Department joined the Board. The Annual Reports of the Board show that much useful work has been done by them, although they are only a consultative and not in any way an executive body.

The Departments of Police, Jails, and Registration are each supervised and inspected by an Inspector-General, with a suitable staff of assistants, under the general direction of Government. Under the present organization of the Police Department there are under the Inspector-General two Deputy Inspectors-General on Rs. 1,500, five District Superintendents of the 1st grade on Rs. 1,000, six of the 2nd grade on Rs. 900, seven of the 3rd grade on Rs. 800, 12 of the 4th grade on Rs. 700, 12 of the 5th grade on Rs. 600, and 12 of the 6th grade on Rs. 500. Besides these there are 14 Assistant Superintendents, 1st grade, on Rs. 400, and 23 Assistant Superintendents, 2nd grade, and Probationers on Rs. 250—300. The Police of the province are divided into three main heads: the District Police, the Railway Police and the Military Police. The Military Police form an armed reserve to deal with serious and organised disturbances that may arise. The work of the Railway Police is practically confined to offences actually committed on the railways, which are mostly petty thefts of small importance. The prevention and detection of crime in the province generally is entrusted to the District Police. In the smaller towns, the work of watch and wards is performed by town chaukidars, who are in theory only night-watchmen, but in practice are also required to do a certain amount of day duty. Outside the regular Police are the Village Police—Chaukidars and daffadars who are responsible for reporting to the Police crime and the occurrence of births and deaths within their villages and assist in the prevention and detection of crime generally. Almost all are paid a small monthly salary, which is realised from the villagers by the punchayet. Far reaching proposals for improving the police force of the Province have lately been submitted to the Government of India, orders on which are pending the result of the recommendations of the Police Commission now enquiring into the administration of police in India generally.

For the purposes of forest administration the Province is divided into 13 divisions, under the general superintendence of the Conservator of Forests. The chief function of the Director of Land Records is the supervision of all large settlement operations: he is responsible for the collection of statistics as to crops, and under his instructions agricultural research and experiments are conducted. The Civil Veterinary Department which was instituted in 1892 is under the control of a Superintendent, who communicates with Government through the Director of Land Records.

157. The following is a list of the principal Gazetted Officers who were employed on the 31st March 1902 in the executive administration of the country, in the administration of justice, in the ordinary duties connected with the collection of the revenue, and in the chief offices in the Police, Customs, Education, Registration, Opium and other Departments:— Administrative staff.

Officers at the Presidency.

Lieutenant-Governor	1
Private Secretary and Aide-de-Camp	2
Secretaries, Under-Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries to Government	12
Registrars, Bengal Secretariat	4
Lord Bishop of Calcutta	1
Archdeacon of Calcutta	1
Judges of the High Court	13
Registrar of the High Court	1
Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs	1
Deputy Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs ...	1
Judges of the Small Cause Court and Registrar	6
Presidency Magistrates	2
Municipal Magistrate	1
Members of the Board of Revenue	2
Secretaries to the Board of Revenue	2
Commissioner of Excise	1
Personal Assistant to Commissioner of Excise	1
Inspectors of Excise	2
Director of Land Records and Agriculture	1
Personal Assistant to Director of Land Records and Agriculture ...	1
Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department	1
Collector of Customs	1
Accountant-General, Deputy and Assistant Accountants-General ...	5

Officers at the Presidency—concluded.

Superintendent, Government Printing, Bengal	1
Superintendent of the Royal Botanical Gardens	1
Meteorological Reporter	1
Port Officer and *ex-officio* Shipping Master, Calcutta	1
Deputy Shipping Master	1
Health Officer, Port of Calcutta	1
Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery	1
Inspector-General of Registration	1
Personal Assistant to Inspector-General of Registration	1
First Inspector of Registration Offices	1
District Registrar of Calcutta	1
Deputy Collector of Land Revenue, Calcutta, and Superintendent of Excise Revenue	1
Collector of Income-Tax, Calcutta	1
Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta	1
Deputy Chairman of the Corporation of Calcutta	1
Inspector-General of Police	1
Personal Assistant to Inspector-General of Police	1
Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police	1
Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Southern and Eastern Range	1
Commissioner of Police, Calcutta	1
Deputy Commissioner of Police, Calcutta	1
Inspector-General of Jails	1
Superintendent of the Alipore Jail and *ex-officio* Deputy Inspector-General of Jails	1
Superintendent of the Presidency Jail	1
Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Bengal	1
Principal, Professors and Resident Physicians and Surgeons, Medical College	15
Surgeon-Superintendent, Presidency General Hospital and Resident Surgeons	3
Sanitary Commissioner	1
Deputy Sanitary Commissioner	1
Sanitary Engineer	1
Chemical Examiner	1
Coroner of Calcutta	1
Protector of Emigrants and Superintendent of Emigration	1
Medical Inspector of Emigrants (Inland)	1
Director of Public Instruction	1
Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors of Schools	4
Principals and Professors of the Presidency College, Sanskrit College and Madrasah	23
Principal and Vice-Principal, Government School of Art	2
Bengali and Urdu and Hindi Translators to Government	2
Special Inspector of Factories	1
Archæological Surveyor	1

Officers outside Calcutta.

Commissioners of Divisions	9
Judicial Commissioner and District and Sessions Judges	32
Magistrates and Collectors, 1st grade	14
Ditto 2nd „	15
Ditto 3rd „	16
Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, 1st grade	22
Ditto ditto, 2nd „	10
Assistant Magistrates	47
Cantonment Magistrates	2
Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Northern and Western Range	1
District Superintendents of Police	51*
Assistant ditto ditto	35*
Civil Surgeons (including commissioned and uncovenanted Medical officers, Civil and Military Assistant Surgeons in charge of districts)	46
Superintendents of Central Jails	4
Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors	385
Sub-Deputy Collectors and Tahsildars	104
Subordinate Judges and Judges of Small Cause Courts	61
Munsifs	314
Inspectors of Registration offices	2
Special Sub-Registrar, paid by fixed salary	1

* Including Assam.

Officers outside Calcutta—concluded.

Special Sub-Registrars, paid partly by fixed salaries and partly by commissions	41
Rural Sub-Registrars, paid partly by fixed salaries and partly by commissions	3
Rural Sub-Registrars, paid by fees	389
Inspectors of Schools	9
Principals and Professors of Colleges	53
Opium Agents	2
Factory Superintendents	2
Sub-Deputy and Assistant Sub-Deputy Opium Agents (including probationers)	77
Conservator of Forests	1
Deputy Conservators, Assistant Conservators and Extra Assistant Conservators of Forests	23

158. The existing judicial organization of the Regulation Provinces in Bengal consisted on the 31st March 1902 of— Judicial organization.

High Court Judges	13
District and Sessions Judges of districts	29
Additional and Assistant Sessions Judges	5

The functions of these officers are exclusively judicial, and include both civil and criminal jurisdiction. The Chief Justice and four of the Puisne Judges of the High Court are English Barristers. Three of the Judges are native gentlemen, of whom one was a Barrister, and two were distinguished pleaders of the Court. The rest are members of the Civil Service of India. The appointment of an Additional Judge to sit on the Original Side of the High Court has recently been sanctioned by the Secretary of State.

159. Criminal justice is administered by the High Court, the Courts of Session, and the Courts of the various classes of Magistrates. The High Court on its original side tries by a single Judge, with a jury, all cases committed to it by the Presidency Magistrates, and also certain cases in which the accused are European British subjects, which may be committed for trial by Magistrates in the interior. On its Appellate side the High Court, by a bench of two or more Judges, disposes of appeals in respect of convictions on trials before a Court of Session. It revises upon reference from Sessions Judges or Magistrates the decisions of inferior courts, when in error upon points of law, and it confirms, modifies, or annuls all sentences of death passed by Sessions Courts in the interior. The Courts of Session are presided over by a single Judge, who tries, with the aid either of a jury or assessors, all cases committed by Magistrates empowered to that end, and decides, sitting alone, all appeals from the decisions of Magistrates of the first class when the sentence exceeds one month's imprisonment or 50 rupees fine. The powers of a Sessions Judge are limited only by the amount of punishment which may be inflicted for the offence under the Penal Code, except that sentences of death are passed subject to confirmation by the High Court. The powers of a Magistrate of the first class extend to sentencing offenders to imprisonment, either rigorous or simple, up to two years, including solitary confinement; to fine to the extent of Rs. 1,000, or imprisonment and fine combined; also to whipping as a separate or additional punishment of certain offences. The Magistrate of the district always exercises first class powers, and he also hears appeals from the Magistrates of the second and third class within the district. Any Magistrate of the first class, duly empowered by the Local Government, can similarly hear and decide all such appeals. A Magistrate of the second class can award imprisonment up to six months, fine up to Rs. 200, or both, and also whipping as the sole or as an additional punishment if specially empowered by the Local Government. A Magistrate of the third class can only imprison up to one month, or fine up to Rs. 50, or combine these punishments. Benches of Magistrates, consisting of two or more Magistrates sitting together, have now been appointed at almost all the head-quarter stations and at most of the subdivisional stations in Bengal. Their powers vary in different localities. Under the provisions of the new Criminal Procedure Code, Honorary Magistrates are ordinarily appointed for a term of three years, which is, however, renewable on the recommendation of the local officers. Criminal administration.

Civil administration.

160. In respect of civil justice, the High Court of Calcutta exercises an appellate, a legal and equitable, an ecclesiastical, an admiralty, and a bankruptcy jurisdiction. The functions which in England used to be divided among different courts are here exercised in one court and by the same Judges. Below the High Court are the District and Assistant and Additional Judges, the Small Cause Court and Subordinate Judges, and the Munsifs. Of these officers, the District, Assistant and Additional Judges also exercise the powers of a Criminal Court; the remainder are purely Civil Judges.

The jurisdiction of a District Judge or Subordinate Judge extends to all original suits cognizable by the Civil Courts. It does not, however, include the powers of a Small Cause Court unless these be specially conferred. The ordinary jurisdiction of a Munsif extends to all like suits in which the amount or value of the subject-matter in dispute does not exceed one thousand rupees, though the limit may be extended up to suits, the value of which do not exceed two thousand rupees. An appeal lies from the High Court to the Privy Council in England, if the value or amount of the subject-matter exceeds ten thousand rupees. Appeals from the decrees and orders of District and Additional Judges lie to the High Court. Appeals from Subordinate Judges and Munsifs lie to the District Judge, except when the value of the subject-matter exceeds five thousand rupees, when the appeal lies to the High Court. The High Court, with the sanction of the Local Government, may also direct, when necessary, that appeals from the Munsifs may lie to the Court of the Subordinate Judge. The powers of Courts of Small Causes are regulated by Act IX of 1887 (as subsequently modified): subject to certain exceptions, their jurisdiction extends to all suits of a civil nature of which the value does not exceed five hundred rupees, a limit which may be increased to one thousand rupees by an order of the Local Government, with respect to any specified court. The Local Government is empowered under Act XII of 1887 to invest Subordinate Judges and Munsifs with Small Cause Court jurisdictions, for the trial of cases not exceeding five hundred rupees in value in the case of Subordinate Judges, and one hundred rupees in the case of Munsifs. On the 31st March 1902, besides the regular Small Cause Courts, 194 Munsifs had been so invested.

Municipalities in the interior.

161. Bengal Act III of 1884, which regulates the constitution, powers and proceedings of Municipal bodies in these Provinces (except Calcutta), has been amended by Bengal Acts, IV of 1894 and II of 1896. By these enactments the elective franchise has been further extended, and the powers and responsibilities of Commissioners of Municipalities have been enhanced. The scope of Municipal expenditure has been extended, and now provides for the establishment and maintenance of veterinary institutions and the training of the requisite staff, the improvement of breeds of cattle, the training and employment of female medical practitioners, the promotion of physical culture, and the establishment and maintenance of free libraries. The Commissioners may order a survey, and organise a fire-brigade; they may control the water-supply when its purity is suspected, even to the extent of interference with private rights; larger powers of precaution are conferred in the case of ruined and dangerous houses and other erections, as well as increased optional powers for the general regulation of new buildings.

The total number of municipalities at present in existence is 157, of which 13 were established during the last decade, two old municipalities having been abolished during the period. Of these only five are new municipalities; the rest have been formed by the subdivision of others previously existing. The ratepayers of 123 municipalities have been granted the privilege of electing two-thirds of the number of Commissioners fixed in each case, whilst in 108 cases the Commissioners are authorised to elect their own Chairman. In the remaining towns Government has reserved to itself the power of appointing the Commissioners or Chairman, as the case may be, owing either to the backwardness of the place, or to the necessity for holding the balance against contending interests or strong party-feeling. It is only in 27 towns, however, that Government exercises complete control in the appointment of both Commissioners and Chairman. The Municipal system has been most developed in the Presidency, Patna and Burdwan Divisions, where no less than 98 municipalities are situated.

Calcutta Municipality.

162. The system of Municipal Government in Calcutta has undergone material change by the repealing of Bengal Act II of 1888, by Bengal Act III of

1899. Abandoning the policy followed in the previous Acts of vesting the entire Municipal Government of the city in the Commissioners with permission to the Chairman to exercise such powers as were not expressly reserved to the Commissioners in meeting, and subject to such conditions as the Commissioners may lay down, the new Act has created three co-ordinate Municipal authorities, viz., the Corporation, the General Committee, and the Chairman, and distributed between them the functions most appropriate to each. The entire executive power is vested in the Chairman, to be exercised independently, or subject to the approval or sanction of the Corporation or General Committee, wherever this is expressly so directed. To the Corporation are reserved the right of fixing the rates of taxation and all those general functions which can be efficiently performed by a large body, provision being at the same time made against the contingency of their deliberations impeding the transaction of business. The General Committee stands between the deliberative and the executive authorities, and deals with those matters which by their nature are ill-adapted for discussion by the Corporation, and yet are too important to be left to the disposal of the Chairman alone. The total number of Commissioners has been reduced to 50, of whom 25 are elected at the ward elections and the rest appointed by Government, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Calcutta Trades Association and the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta. The strength of the General Committee has been reduced to 12 Commissioners, one-third of whom are elected by the Ward Commissioners, an equal proportion by the appointed Commissioners, and the rest by Government. Provision has thus been made for the adequate representation of those commercial interests which have literally created modern Calcutta, but which, when left to the chances of election in the past, have found themselves hopelessly outnumbered. The Act has provided Calcutta with effective building regulations, based on models of the most approved modern type, while in respect of water-supply, conservancy, drainage, and a multitude of other minor but important matters of municipal administration provision is made to ensure continuous and substantial improvement.

District and Local Boards and Union Committees.

163. The object which the Legislature had in view in passing Bengal Act III of 1885 was two-fold, viz. (*i*) to educate the people of Bengal to interest themselves, and to undertake responsibility in the management of public affairs; and (*ii*) to lighten the burden of administration, of which the strain on Government officers was annually increasing. The Act contemplates the constitution of three classes of local authorities, viz., District and Local Boards and Union Committees, and of these the District Board has been made the unit of administration and the Local Board its agent. Under the provisions of section 6 of the Act, District Boards have been constituted in all the districts of Bengal with the exception of that of Darjeeling, and those specially excluded from the operation of the Act by section 1, viz., Singhbhum, the Sonthal Parganas and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Municipal areas are also excluded in accordance with the provisions of section 1. Local Boards have been formed in all districts where there are subdivisions, except in the districts of Chittagong, Champaran, Hazaribagh, and Manbhum. There are at present 42 District Boards and 103 Local Boards in Bengal. The system of village Unions has also been introduced, though, for the present, it is confined to certain selected areas. There are now 56 Unions, viz., 20 in the Burdwan Division, 22 in the Presidency Division, 1 in the Rajshahi Division, 8 in the Chittagong Division, and 5 in the Orissa Division.

In accordance with the provisions of section 7 of the Act, one-half of the members of District Boards are elected by Local Boards and the other half are nominated by Government; and in districts where there are no Local Boards the District Board consists entirely of members appointed by Government. In every case the Magistrate of the district has been appointed by Government to be the Chairman, and experience has shown the wisdom of this, seeing that it would have been quite impossible to introduce the measure in its present form except under the direction of the District Officer.

Under section 59 of the Act the provisions of Part III, Chapter I, which relate to A.—Pounds, B.—Education, C.—Medical and D.—Public Works, have been extended to every district in which the Act is in force. Under section 52, clause (3) of the Local Self-Government Act, receipts accruing

under the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871, form one of the assets of the District Fund; and, in order to secure that administrative control should accompany financial responsibility, the powers of the District Magistrate under Chapters I to III of the Cattle Trespass Act have been conferred on District Boards. These powers relate to the establishment of pounds and their general management, the determination of the villages by which they are to be used, the appointment of pound-keepers, and the fixing of fees. The system of farming pounds has been generally introduced, and they are regularly inspected by officers of Government and of the Boards. Leases for a longer period than one year are granted to persons of known position and solvency, and revised registers and forms of receipt have been introduced to enable a proper check to be kept over the pound-keepers. Under sections 62, 64 and 65 of the Act the entire maintenance and management of Government Middle English and Middle Vernacular Schools, the administration of grants-in-aid, and the management of the primary grants have been vested in the District Boards. The old District Committees of Public Instruction have ceased to exist in all the districts in which the Act is in force, and their establishments of Sub-Inspectors of Schools, teachers and clerks have all been transferred to the Boards. Similarly, under section 66 of the Act, they have been given the control and administration of some Charitable Dispensaries, while under section 69 they are required to contribute towards the cost of the maintenance of dispensaries which are habitually used by the inhabitants of the district. On the formation of the Boards all roads, bridges, channels, buildings and other property—moveable and immoveable—held by, or under the control and administration of, the previously existing District or Branch Road Committees, were placed under their control and administration under the provisions of section 73 of the Act, and the old establishment was, in accordance with section 3 of the Act, retained under the new management. District Boards having thus taken the place of District Road Committees are required to carry out the same works, having at their disposal the same trained establishments. The provisions of sections 88, 89 and 90, which relate to Sanitation, and 100 (Miscellaneous), have been extended to all of them. Most of the public ferries in the districts coming under the Act have been formally placed under the management of the respective District Boards under the provisions of section 35 of the Bengal Ferries Act, 1885, and their proceeds assigned to the Boards to establish equilibrium between the receipts and charges transferred to them from the Provincial Accounts under the above arrangements. In cases in which the income from ferries so transferred has proved insufficient to redress their financial balance, a money grant has been made from Provincial revenues so as to balance the receipts and charges transferred.

Local Boards are formed on the combined principle of election and nomination by Government, and as a rule they avail themselves of the power which the law allows them of electing their own Chairman from among the members, subject to the approval of the Local Government. It is only in a few cases that Chairmen are appointed by the Local Government at the request of the Boards. With certain exceptions these bodies administer the grants for village roads, pounds, ferries and primary education; while in some districts the supervision of dispensaries, village sanitation and district roads has also been entrusted to them. Local Boards have proved their usefulness though in a lesser degree than the District Boards, as the scope of their work is very limited. The utility of those in Sadar subdivisions has, however, been to some extent discredited, and steps have in certain cases been taken to discontinue them. The Local Boards at Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Gaya and Saran have already been abolished.

Union Committees have, for the most part, been entrusted with the control of pounds, village roads, sanitation and water-supply. In regard to Primary schools their authority is restricted to inspection, and no power of control has been conferred upon them. Their income consists of (*a*) net receipts from pounds, (*b*) a consolidated grant from the District Board for village roads, sanitation and water-supply, and (*c*) funds raised under section 118 of the Act. In some districts these Committees are reported to have done some useful work within the narrow limits of their powers and resources.

Character of Land Revenue Tenures; Settlement and Survey.

SECTION I.—CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES.

Permanent Settlement, 1793.

164. The East India Company succeeded to the dewani or financial administration of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in the year 1765, but it was not until 1772, on the dismissal of Mahomed Reza Khan, the naib dewan, that they assumed, by the agency of their own servants, the direct management of the revenues. The grant of the dewani was the grant of the right to collect the revenue of the three provinces, and to exercise jurisdiction in civil and financial or revenue cases. It was subject to the payment of a fixed yearly stipend of twenty-six lakhs of rupees to the Emperor of Delhi, and to defraying the expenses of the administration of criminal justice and police. For some years the revenue was collected on the old Mughal system. The zamindars or Government farmers were recognized as having a right to collect the revenue from the actual cultivators. But no principle of assessment existed, and, with the single exception of a five-year settlement introduced by Warren Hastings in 1772, the revenue was in general adjusted from year to year. The decennial settlement of Lord Cornwallis was commenced in 1789 and completed in 1791. No attempt was made to measure the fields or calculate the outturn. The amount to be paid in the future was fixed by reference to what had been paid in the past. At first the settlement was called decennial, but in 1793 it was declared permanent for ever. It was confined to the three provinces of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, according to their boundaries at that time. By the term Orissa was meant only the tract of country lying between the Rupnarain and Subarnarekha rivers, and now included in the district of Midnapore. The greater part of Orissa Proper, which was conquered from the Mahrattas in 1803, is subject to a temporary settlement. The permanent settlement embraced, roughly speaking, the tracts of country now comprised in the Burdwan, the Presidency, Rajshahi, Dacca, Chittagong, Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions. It also comprised parts of the Hazaribagh and Manbhum districts and a few estates in Singhbhum and Ranchi in the Chota Nagpur Division, as well as Goalpara and Sylhet (now included in the Chief Commissionership of Assam), and Jalpaiguri; the last-named then forming part of the Rangpur Collectorate, but now being, with the addition of a tract of country (the Western Duars) conquered from Bhutan in 1864, a separate district of the Rajshahi Division.

Resumption Proceedings.

165. At the time of the permanent settlement large areas were claimed to be held revenue-free, and the authority to scrutinize such revenue-free grants, and if invalid, to annex them, was specially reserved. They were divided into two classes—Badshahi and Hukumi, the former being those that were granted by the Mughal Emperor direct, and the latter by the officials of the Emperor. Regulation XXXVII of 1793 dealt with Badshahi grants and Regulation XIX of the same year with the others.

Badshahi grants were recognised as valid (bahali) if the holder could prove his sanad as hereditary and was in possession; Hukumi grants, though in their nature invalid, were accepted as valid if dated prior to 1765. All grants of a subsequent date were invalid and were resumed (bazyafti), but those given between 1765 and 1790 were to be accorded a privileged rate of assessment. By Regulation XIX all lakhiraj grants made by zamindars after 1790 were invalidated, and zamindars were authorised to nullify their own grants.

No practical steps were taken when these Regulations were passed, but in 1800 an attempt was made to introduce compulsory registrations of lakhiraj grants in registry offices. It proved abortive and in 1819 Regulation II of that year was passed, the principal provision of which transferred the power of resumption from the Civil to the Revenue Courts. It was supplemented by Regulation III of 1828, which appointed an executive agency, in the person of a special Commissioner, to give practical effect to the policy of Government, and it was under his guidance that resumption proceedings were systematically undertaken between the years 1830 and 1850. By these means some thousands

of estates were added to the revenue-roll. The jurisdiction in resumption cases has since again been transferred to the Civil Courts by Act VIII of 1869, and the question has been further set at rest by the limitation law (Act XV of 1877), which expressly gives a limit of 60 years in the case of suits instituted by the Secretary of State.

Temporarily-settled tracts in the Lower Provinces.

166. The temporarily-settled tracts consist chiefly of territories acquired subsequent to the Permanent Settlement. Among these may be mentioned Orissa (already noticed) ceded by the Mahrattas in 1803, the Khurda estate comprising nearly half of the district of Puri confiscated in 1804, the Palamau estate resumed in 1818, the district of Darjeeling obtained from the Raja of Sikkim in 1835, the Banki and Angul estates confiscated in 1839 and 1847, respectively, and the Western Duars in Jalpaiguri (already noticed) taken in 1864 from Bhutan. A large portion of the district of Chittagong, known as the Noabad area, and the Sundarbans comprised in the three districts of the 24-Parganas, Khulna and Backergunge, which is now being brought under cultivation, are also not permanently settled. Besides the above, many scattered estates which have become the property of Government by purchase at revenue sales, or by alluvial accretion, are settled for terms fixed by the Government.

Status of Zamindars.

167. The zamindars, with whom the settlement was originally made, were, for the most part, powerful men, whose authority extended over wide tracts of country; police and other powers being entrusted to them. Of these tracts they were by the settlement given the status of landlords, with rights of transfer and inheritance, subject only to the payment, in perpetuity, of a revenue charge. In default of due payment, their lands were to be sold to the highest bidder. Whilst the claim of Government against the zamindars was thus fixed for ever, the law intended that the rights of the zamindars over their own tenants should equitably be restricted. But no detailed record of tenant-right was inserted in the settlement papers. The rights of the landlord as against the State were defined by the Regulations of 1793; the rights of the tenants as against the landlord were reserved, but were not defined. Though important privileges were conceded to the zamindar, it was not intended that he should have the power of setting aside existing subordinate rights; it was taken for granted that the law courts would afford sufficient protection to the latter, and intended that such tenures should be registered. One result of the permanent settlement was that under the influence of debt and mismanagement large zamindaries were speedily broken up. The Government demand was then one which left but a small margin of profit, as compared with that given to zamindars in modern days. The rights of the raiyat to hold at customary rates were secured by law, and the power of the zamindars over them was limited. While regular payment of the revenue, without remissions, was insisted on by Government, the zamindars had no legal means of enforcing payments from the tenants with the same rigid punctuality. Consequently there was a widespread default in the payment of the Government dues, and extensive sales of estates, or parts of estates for recovery of arrears. In 1796-97 lands bearing a total revenue of sicca Rs. 14,18,756 were sold for arrears of revenue, and in 1797-98 the revenue of lands so sold amounted to sicca Rs. 22,74,076. By the end of the century the greater portions of the estates of the Nadia, Rajshahi, Bishenpur and Dinajpur Rajas had been alienated. The Burdwan estate was seriously crippled, and the Birbhum zamindari was completely ruined. A host of smaller zamindars shared the same fate. Within the ten years which immediately followed the permanent settlement, a great change thus took place in the constitution and ownership of the estates which formed the subject of that settlement. The average annual collections from 1794 to 1798 amounted, however, to sicca Rs. 2,65,00,000, being only three lakhs short of the annual demand.

In order to facilitate the collection of the Government revenue, the zamindars in 1799 were invested with greater powers for recovering rents from the raiyats, and these in 1812 were increased, so that for some 50 years of the present century they exercised an authority over the raiyats far greater than that given them by the original settlement of 1793.

How the Legislature in later years extended its protection to the raiyats by the enactment of Act X of 1859, and the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, will be described in a later portion of this report.

168. In 1790-91 the total assessment amounted to sicca Rs. 2,68,00,989 (Company's Rs. 2,85,87,722), and this assessment was, with some slight variation, declared to be permanent in 1793. This revenue did not include the demand on the temporarily-settled Noabad taluks in the district of Chittagong, but, as already noticed, comprised the demands of two Assam districts. A large addition to the revenue occurred when the province of Orissa was conquered from the Mahrattas in 1803, and the Khurda estate in Puri was confiscated in 1804, while the resumption of the Palamau estate in 1818 also increased it to some extent. Some additions were also made to it when the zamindars were relieved of police charges and otherwise. After this by the acquisition of Cachar, by the cession of the district of Darjeeling (1835), by the confiscation of the Estates of Banki (1839) and Angul (1847), by the resettlement of Orissa (1837) and Chittagong (1848) and by the resumption, under Regulation II of 1819, of invalid revenue-free tenures, the revenue expanded, and in 1850 it amounted to Rs. 3,46,89,279. In the next 32 years the revenues of three Assam districts (Goalpara, Sylhet, and Cachar) were lost to Bengal on their transfer to the newly-formed Province of Assam, while the Orissa famine of 1866, which caused a post-ponement of the resettlement of that province, gave a check to expansion, the only additional territories gained in the period being the Western Duars in 1864. The total revenue thus stood at Rs. 3,78,61,923 in the year 1882-83. Since then a large increase has resulted from the resettlement of the temporarily-settled area in Orissa (1897), Chittagong (1898), and elsewhere, of waste lands in the Sundarbans, Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts and of the Government estates of the Kolhan, Palamau, Khurda, Angul, Banki, &c. At the end of 1901-1902 the revenue stood at Rs. 4,00,90,038, as compared with Rs. 3,83,72,332 in the year 1892-93.

Development of the Government revenue in the permanently-settled and temporarily-settled areas.

169. The number of estates on the Government revenue-roll has been greatly augmented since the Permanent Settlement—first, by the admission to the roll of talukdars who succeeded in the claims preferred by them to hold their taluks independently of the zamindars, through whom they had previously paid their revenue; and, secondly, by partitions of estates. In the district of Jessore alone no less than 1,000 estates were added to the roll by the separate registration of taluks between the years 1796 and 1798. Partitions have occurred in two ways—first, by the act of Government or the Courts of Law, the object being to bring portions of estates to sale for arrears of revenue or for private debts due from the proprietors; and, secondly, at the instance of the proprietors themselves, under the permission accorded by clause 3, Art. IX, of the Proclamation of the 22nd March 1793. Partitions of the former class were carried to such an extent, during the ten years which immediately succeeded the Settlement, as completely to disintegrate most of the large ancestral estates in the country. The process of voluntary partition has been constantly carried on up to the present time under the provisions of the law above referred to, and of the subsequent laws on the subject; the large majority of such partitions having been effected in the districts of the Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions. Every partition has naturally added one or more estates to the number on the roll, and a large portion of the estates so added have been registered under new names. The result of all these operations has been a transformation of the revenue-roll so complete that it is almost impossible to establish in most districts the points of identity between the list of 1793 and that of 1901-1902.

Variations of revenue roll.

170. The marginally-noted fourfold classification of estates which was ordered by Sir George Campbell in 1873, and carried out in 1875-76, was in 1891 changed by Government into a threefold classification by the abolition of class IV, raiyatwari tracts, which are now included in class III. Further changes have been effected by transferring estates, managed direct owing to the recusancy of proprietors, from class II, temporarily-settled estates, to class III, estates held direct by Government, such being considered not properly temporarily-settled estates, while Government estates leased to farmers for a term of years have been transferred from class III to class II, to which they belong, being temporarily settled.

Class I.—Permanently-settled estates.
„ II.—Temporarily-settled estates.
„ III.—Government estates.
„ IV.—Raiyatwari tracts.

Classification of estates.

The classification now stands thus:—

Class I, permanently-settled estates, which includes, as before, all estates so settled, whether—

(1) estates settled from the date of the decennial settlement;
(2) resumed revenue-free estates settled in perpetuity;
(3) estates formerly the property of Government, but the proprietary right in which has been sold to private persons, subject to a revenue fixed in perpetuity;
(4) estates once the property of Government, but the proprietary right in which has been sold to private persons, subject to a revenue liable to periodical revision.

Class II, temporarily-settled estates, which includes—

(1) those settled for periods with the proprietors;
(2) private estates leased to farmers for periods;
(3) Government estates leased to farmers for periods.

Class III, estates held direct by Government, which includes—

(1) those managed for proprietors;
(2) those owned by Government as proprietor.

By the changes above referred to, which were shown for the first time in the Board's Land Revenue Report for 1891-92, 21 raiyatwari tracts were absorbed within class III, being in some cases broken up into smaller estates, while from that class 1,673 estates were transferred to class II (temporarily-settled estates), 295 estates being taken from class II and placed in class III.

Through the revised classification introduced by Sir George Campbell, the number of estates was greatly reduced. In Calcutta alone 10,000 holdings which had been incorrectly shown as permanently-settled estates, were then reckoned as one Government estate. Similar decreases occurred in other districts, but since 1876-77 the total number of estates borne on the revenue-roll has through partitions, mostly occurring in the Bihar districts, been greatly increased.

The following statement shows the increase in the number of estates in the Patna Division, and the Monghyr and Bhagalpur districts of the Bhagalpur Division, during the 39 years ending 1901-1902:—

Districts.	Number of estates.				Increase in the number of estates in—		
	1862-63.	1882-83.	1892-93.	1901-1902.	1901-1902, as compared with 1862-63.	1901-1902, as compared with 1882-83.	1901-1902, as compared with 1892-93.
Patna Division.							
Patna ...	5,015	8,182	10,322	12,814	7,799	4,632	2,492
Gaya ...	4,936	5,595	6,121	7,674	2,738	2,079	1,553
Shahabad ...	4,186	5,912	7,607	9,922	5,736	4,010	2,315
Saran ...	4,183	5,225	6,042	6,688	2,505	1,463	646
Champaran ...							
Muzaffarpur ...	7,521	23,581	30,447	34,172	26,651	10,591	3,725
Darbhanga ...							
Total ...	25,841	48,495	60,539	71,270	45,429	22,775	10,731
Bhagalpur Division.							
Monghyr ...	3,539	5,732	7,118	7,901	4,362	2,169	783
Bhagalpur ...	3,594	4,210	4,585	4,741	1,147	531	156
Total ...	7,133	9,942	11,703	12,642	5,509	2,700	939

The rapid subdivision of estates in Bihar still continues. The total number of estates had, during the 20 years ending 1882-83, nearly doubled in the Patna Division and in Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga been more than trebled. The increase in the last-named two districts is still noticeable. As estates have thus been multiplied, their average area has of course been diminished. The number of estates shown against the 40 districts of Bengal Proper and Bihar was 110,456 in 1882-83 and 134,986 in 1892-93, while at the end of 1901-1902 the number had risen to 150,266. Of these 474, or only ·31 per cent., against ·34 per cent. in 1892-93, are great properties, each having an area of 20,000 acres and upwards; 13,939, or 9·2 per cent., against 10·1 per cent. in 1892-93, range from 500 to 20,000 acres each; while the number of estates individually less than 500 acres each was 135,853, or 90·4 per cent. of the total number, against 89·4 per cent. in 1892-93.

Realization of permanently-settled revenue.

171. The revenue of the permanently-settled estates of Bengal has been realized with great punctuality. Losses sometimes occur through famine, epidemics, the devastations of cyclones, and other natural calamities; but, under the conditions of settlement, no pleas based on such events can be urged as excuses for non-payment, and, as a rule, the large present excess of the annual rental over the Government demand enables the present land-holders to meet that demand even in the most disastrous years. When, however, a land-owner cannot pay, the estate comes to sale for arrears, and then it depends upon its actual value in the market, whether the price realized will cover the amount due to Government. If the debt be not cleared off, the defaulter is liable to other processes for the recovery of the remainder, which is in but few cases so recovered; small losses to Government occur from time to time in this way. In other cases estates, usually small ones, come to sale for arrears owing to raiyats deserting or in consequence of diluvion, and sometimes in consequence of fraudulent transfers of land, and no bidders are found for them. These have to be bought in by Government, and settled to the best advantage by the revenue authorities. Many almost valueless estates come in this way into the hands of Government. Some are settled, permanently or temporarily, at a revenue far below that which they originally bore on the revenue-roll; others, after all attempts at settlement have failed, are sold to the highest bidders revenue-free. In this way Government has frequently suffered losses of permanently-settled revenue, but these are more than made up for by accessions from freshly assessed alluvion and occasional resettlements of Government estates at a higher revenue than that which they originally bore. It would also seem proper, in estimating the gains to be set off against the losses already noted, to take into account the annual value of the capital sums which have been realized by the sale of Government estates, such sums representing the market value at the time of sale of the prospective proprietary profits from the estates so sold.

Government estates.

172. Estates coming into the hands of Government were originally either permanently settled or sold outright. This policy was changed in 1871, in which year it was ordered that temporary settlements only should be allowed, and that, where sales appeared to be expedient, the estates should be first settled for terms of years and then sold subject to a revision of the Government revenue on the expiration of the term of settlement. The above procedure, however, seemed to be of questionable legality, and in 1875 the Government, at the suggestion of the Board of Revenue, ruled that an estate should be considered as suitable for direct management—

(1) if it was of sufficient extent and cultivation to support a tahsildari establishment;

(2) if, though not yielding a revenue sufficient to cover such expense, there was reasonable expectation that its gross rent could be increased by improvements, extended cultivation, or otherwise, to that amount;

(3) if, though not sufficient in extent or rental alone to find employment, or funds, for a separate establishment, it was so situated as to be capable of being incorporated with one or more similar Government estates, so as to form a compact tahsildari circle;

and that smaller isolated estates might still be retained under direct management, if their situation near the head-quarters of a district or a subdivision was such as to allow of their proper supervision by the Government officers. Smaller estates, not admitting of such supervision, were to be sold after survey

and settlement, in which the rights of all classes of cultivators were to be recorded, and the estates, so sold, were to be transferred to their new proprietors, with the revenue fixed in perpetuity, except in Orissa (a temporary-settled Province), where the sale should be made subject to revision of the assessment on the termination of the general settlement of the Province.

From the end of 1877 until Sir Rivers Thompson took up the question, the policy of selling Government estates which could not be advantageously managed was not actively prosecuted. Owing to representations made by the Board, the Government, in 1886, directed that all Government estates with a rental of over Re. 1 should be sold with that rent permanently settled, and that estates with a rental of Re. 1 or less should be sold revenue-free.

In 1891 the question of keeping Government estates under direct management was re-opened by the Government, with the result that in December 1894 the Board recommended the sale of 941 Government estates, comprising 33,624 acres, with a rental of Rs. 53,859. These recommendations, which were generally in accord with those made by the local officers, were based on the following principles:—

(*a*) large compact estates, capable of supporting a tahsildari establishment, and of being efficiently managed, or which had not been fully developed, were to be retained;

(*b*) town lands, or lands in urban tracts, in which the revenue was likely to increase shortly, or which might be required by Government hereafter, and which were easy to manage, were not to be sold;

(*c*) estates largely subject to alluvion or diluvion were to be retained;

(*d*) petty estates, and estates which are scattered or fully developed, should be sold;

(*e*) Government shares in joint undivided estates should be sold;

(*f*) The estates in which the cost of management was out of proportion to the demands should be sold.

With regard to the terms on which estates should be sold, the Board proposed, in accordance with the Government orders of 1886, that—

(1) Estates which pay a rent or revenue of Re. 1 or less should be sold revenue-free at an upset price of ten times the rent or revenue; and (2) estates paying more than Re. 1 as rent should ordinarily be sold at an upset price of twice the rent, at a revenue fixed in perpetuity, equal to the amount of the present rent. This rule was not, however, to be made applicable to estates in temporarily-settled districts.

It was also proposed that a survey and record-of-rights of tenants should usually precede the sale of a Government estate, but that in the case of small estates, or fractional shares of undivided estates, or where a survey had once been made, the preparation of such a record should not be obligatory. The Board's proposals were accepted by the Government. Farming is adopted only in exceptional cases, usually when direct management is impracticable, or distinctly disadvantageous to Government, and after the rights, rents, and position of the raiyats have been fully secured and protected.

Record of rights. Registration of estates.

173. A primary object of the framers of the permanent settlement was to record all rights in the land. Regulation XLVIII of 1793 prescribed the preparation of a general register of estates, to be arranged in alphabetical order according to the English alphabet, and also directed that a register of intermediate mutations should also be kept up in the manner therein detailed. The intention was that every fifth year the general register should be re-written and all the mutations entered intermediately in the mutation register embodied in it. In fact, however, the registers were never kept up in such a manner as to be really useful in any district in Bengal. Practically, before the year 1876 there was no obligation enforced on zamindars to register transfers of their estates; registration was only effected whenever it suited the parties to observe the law, and the penalty for disobedience prescribed by the law was never in fact enforced. The registers did not explain who the zamindars were, and they furnished no information at all of under-holders or raiyats. As a partial remedy of this evil, the registers of the returns of estates and tenures for purposes of valuation under the Road Cess Act of 1871 afforded valuable information as the basis for the preparation of fresh

general and pargana registers in nearly all the districts of Bengal. But the question of keeping and maintaining a complete record of possessory titles in landed estates was not taken up till the year 1875, when a Bill was introduced in the Bengal Legislative Council to provide for the compulsory registration of such titles. The Bill underwent very great discussion, both before the Select Committee and before the Council, and was passed into law [Act VII (B.C.) of 1876] in July 1876. This law requires the registration of all lands, whether revenue-paying or revenue-free; and every person in possession, as owner or manager, of such lands, or of any share in such lands, is required within a certain period, and under heavy penalties, to register full particulars of the property in his possession. Registration is optional only in the case of those who, though not in possession as owners, have a lien on the proprietary right as mortgagees. The Act has been extended to all districts except Angul. The object of the Act is not to make an inquisition into titles, but to identify all individuals on whom the legislature has imposed certain duties and the fulfilment of certain obligations in virtue of their being in possession of land as proprietors. These registers account for every acre of land in the district.

The work is now complete in all the districts. The total number of proprietary interests in land actually registered under the Act and in force up to the end of the year 1901-1902 was 2,082,822. The work of re-writing Register D of intermediate registrations in a revised form prescribed by the Board of Revenue has been completed in all the districts except five.

Kanungos and Patwaris.

174. By the Regulations of 1793 all zamindars were required to maintain patwaris to keep the accounts of the raiyats. The functions of the kanungo (literally, expounder of the laws: from *kanûn*=laws and *go*=to speak), who was appointed by Government, were to keep the public accounts, and to receive the returns and registers of the zamindars and other local officers who collected the public revenue. The kanungo was appointed for each estate or pargana, and was required to compile information regarding articles of produce, rates of rent, transfers of holdings, rules and customs established in each pargana, and to assist in measurements of lands. The patwari occupied the lower grade in the local agency, and performed the duties of a village accountant. He was required to keep accounts relating to lands, produce, collections and charges. The kanungos were district registrars; the patwaris were official village accountants. Both these classes of officials were intended to serve as a check on the landlords. English ideas of the rights of a landlord, and of the advantage of non-interference, afterwards began to prevail in Bengal. The executive more and more abrogated the functions of recording rights and protecting the inferior holders, and left everything to the judicial tribunals. The patwaris fell into disuse, or became the mere servants of the zamindars, and, along with the kanungos, whose office had long become little more than a name, were abolished by Lord Cornwallis. In 1815 the Court of Directors took up the matter afresh and directed the introduction of measures by which the patwaris should be transformed from zamindari to Government servants and be paid from public funds. Objections, however, were raised, and the scheme fell through. The patwaris remained as they were; but it was determined to appoint kanungos to supervise them, and make their accounts available for reference by the Courts and the revenue officers of Government. Regulations regarding patwaris and kanungos were passed in 1817-18-19, and Regulation I of the last-named year provided for the re-establishment of kanungos and defined the position and duties of patwaris; and throughout Bengal, with the exception of some few districts, kanungos were appointed. Success, however, does not appear to have attended even these measures. The Bengal revenue authorities were opposed to the arrangement. In 1827 the Board reported that the kanungos had effected but little towards the main object of their appointment, and that their action met with systematic and determined opposition from the landholders who, in most cases, failed to appoint patwaris or, when they did appoint them, refused to pay their allowances, dismissed them without warning and did not allow them access to their real records. The Board of Revenue gave no support to the system, and though the Government of India never conceded the point, the passive resistance of the landholders had the effect of defeating all action, until

kanungos dropped out everywhere save in Orissa; and patwaris were discouraged and, as far as possible, extinguished.

Attempted revival of the Patwari System.

175. Efforts were made about 26 years ago to revivify the patwaris. Throughout the Province provision was made for the appointment of patwaris, or the performance of their duties, in all settlements, under instructions from Sir George Campbell issued in 1872. As a rule, in every estate of which the revenue was above Rs. 300, remuneration for a patwari formed a set-off against assessment, and in a smaller estate the settlement-holder engaged himself to perform the duties which the law required of a patwari. Except in Orissa and Bihar, however, no successful results sprang from the attempt to revive an institution which had long ceased to have much vitality. The system was generally condemned by officers in Bengal Proper as being vexatious and irritating to the landlords, useless for all practical purposes, wasteful of Government money and opposed to the present customs and traditions of the land-owning classes. The Government, therefore, at the suggestion of the Board, directed that no further attempts should be made to revive the institution, and that the allowances granted in the estates should be resumed.

Even in Orissa, where after much opposition from the zamindars patwaris were established in a number of estates, they were stated to be of little use and their accounts to be untrustworthy. Their lands were, accordingly, resumed at the recent settlement and assessed to revenue.

In the Bhagalpur Division the patwari system is in force in Monghyr only. Proprietors were called upon to register their patwaris. The progress since 1890-91, when the revised registers were opened, has, however, been very slow, owing to the fear of the zamindars that, by registering, they lose their hold over the patwaris, and also because the co-sharers of an estate can rarely agree as to whom they should nominate to the office. In the Patna Division, for similar reasons, the registration has not been fully carried out.

The Patwari Bill, which was introduced into Council in 1885, was abandoned. The Secretary of State was not disposed, for an object, the success of which he regarded as doubtful, to sanction the proposal to impose a cess from the proceeds of which the cost of the patwaris and supervising kanungos could be met.

The question was again opened with the object of providing an establishment for the maintenance in the North Bihar districts of the records-of-rights referred to below. After much discussion, however, the proposal to utilise the patwaris for this work was abandoned, and the Land Records Maintenance Act, III (B.C.) of 1895 was passed, and has been worked experimentally in the Hajipur thana of Muzaffarpur and part of the Bettiah thana of Champaran. The experiment has not proved successful, and the question of the revision of the records is still under consideration. A scheme for the maintenance of records in Orissa is also under consideration.

Record-of-Rights.

176. The record of all rights which was required by the old system was partially supplied by the returns submitted under the Road Cess Act, which is to some extent a register of tenures in Bengal. The cess returns, however, do not afford a complete register, the results being vitiated by the system of summary valuation allowed by the Act, which withdraws from sight all details of tenures, under-tenures, and raiyati-holdings contained in such estates or tenures, as are summarily valued. In the instructions issued to the officersengaged in making re-valuations under Act IX (B.C.) of 1880, an attempt was made to remedy this defect in the returns by declaring that the least possible recourse should be had to the process of summary valuation. Through the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, however, a procedure was devised for obtaining, in a complete form, the long-wished-for but long-delayed record-of-rights of all interests in the land. This has been prepared for Muzaffarpur, Champaran and Saran and part of Gaya, and is in the course of preparation in Darbhanga, North Monghyr, North Bhagalpur and the Purnea district. A record-of-rights has also been completed for the temporarily-settled estates of Orissa and for the district of Chittagong, while similar proceedings have begun in Backergunge. A large number of estates all over the Province have also been similarly dealt with on the applications of the proprietors. In districts like the Sonthal Parganas, Singhbhum

and Ranchi, where the Bengal Tenancy Act is not in force, operations on a large scale are also being carried on under special laws in force.

Security of the revenue.

177. The security of the Government revenue depends at present upon the operation of the Sale Law. It was apprehended that the proprietor of an estate from improvidence, ignorance, or with a view to raise money, might be induced to lessen his own receipts by granting leases at reduced rates to tenure-holders or raiyats, and so occasion a permanent diminution of the Government revenue in the event of the reduced receipts of the proprietor proving insufficient to defray the Government demand and of the estate being brought to sale in consequence. In view of this danger, it was thought well to provide that when an estate was sold for arrears of its own revenue, all incumbrances should be avoided, all leases cancelled, and the estate handed over to the new proprietor in the same condition in which it was at the time of the permanent settlement. It was accordingly enacted in the Regulation of 1793, that on a sale for arrears of revenue, all engagements subsisting between the proprietors and their dependent talukdars, farmers and raiyats, on account of such lands, should, with certain exceptions, be null and void. The law on the subject has been re-enacted in the present Sale Law, Act XI of 1859, and the exceptions are:—

(1) Istimrari or mukararri tenures, which have been held at a fixed rent from the time of the permanent settlement;
(2) Tenures existing at the time of settlement, which have not been held at a fixed rent; provided that the rents of such tenures shall be liable to enhancement under any law for the time being in force for the enhancement of the rent of such tenures;
(3) Talukdari and other similar tenures created since the time of settlement and held immediately of the proprietors of estates, and farms for terms of years so held, when such tenures and farms have been duly registered under the provisions of this Act;
(4) Leases of lands whereon dwelling-houses, manufactories, or other permanent buildings have been erected, or whereon gardens, plantations, tanks, wells, canals, places of worship, or burning or burying grounds have been made, or wherein mines have been sunk.

A Bill to amend Act XI of 1859 was introduced in the Bengal Council, but weighty objections having been urged against several of the most important amendments proposed, it was withdrawn, as intimated in the Council on the 19th January 1895.

The average annual number of whole estates and shares which became liable to sale during the ten years ending 1892-93 was 13,762, of which 1,576, or 11·4 per cent. were actually sold. The average annual number which became liable to sale in the nine succeeding years was 17,149, of which 1,559, or only 9·0 per cent., were actually sold. It is thus apparent that the Sale Law is not worked with any undue severity or harshness by Collectors. The effects of the land registration proceedings are apparent in the great number of applications made under the protective clauses of the Sale Law. The opening of a separate account is now an easier matter than it was when title and possession could be readily questioned, and a stop thus put to further proceedings. Under Act XI of 1859, shareholders and sub-shareholders are permitted, under certain conditions, to obtain separate registry, so as to protect themselves from the effect of a sale due to the default of others. The total number of tenures entered in the common register up to the end of 1892-93 was 4,651, with an area of 4,110,596 acres, and a rental of Rs. 24,39,447, and the total number of tenures entered in the special register on the same date was 397, with an area of 1,056,643 acres, and a rental of Rs. 4,69,129. The corresponding figures up to the end of 1901-1902 are 4,930 tenures, with an area of 4,161,438 acres, and a rental of Rs. 25,07,743; and 438 tenures, with an area of 1,063,462 acres, and a rental of Rs. 4,83,873. The following statement shows the number of separate accounts opened under sections 10 and 11 of Act XI of 1859 and section 70 of Act VII (B.C.) of 1876

during the ten years ending 1892-93, and the corresponding figures for the nine years ending 1901-1902. The average annual number shows that there has been a decrease under each head of accounts opened:—

	Number of separate accounts opened under section 10 of Act XI of 1859.	Number of separate accounts opened under section 11 of Act XI of 1859.	Number of separate accounts opened under section 70 of Act VII (B.C.) of 1876.
For the ten years ending 1892-93	31,998	2,867	9,654
For the nine years ending 1901-1902.	24,321	2,008	7,996

The protection these provisions of the law afford to tenure-holders, and the check they introduce on attempts by zamindars to utilise the Sale Law as a means for obtaining an enhancement of rent, are much lessened through the period of limitation laid down by section 2 of Act III (B.C.) of 1862.

Wards' and Attached Estates.

178. The classes of private estates which may be legally brought under the Court of Wards are as follows:—

I.—The estates of a disqualified proprietor who owns, either alone or as a sharer with other disqualified proprietors, the whole of a revenue-paying estate, or a share in, or of, an estate other than an undivided share held in coparcenary as the property of a Hindu joint family governed by the Mitakshara or Mithila law. Whenever a disqualified proprietor comes under the Court of Wards, all his property, whether revenue-paying or revenue-free, held in common tenancy or held sole, becomes subject to the jurisdiction of the Court.

II.—The estates of a minor, consisting in whole or in part of land or any interest in land, of which a Civil Court, after having passed an order under section 7 of Act VIII of 1890, appointing a guardian of the person or property, or both, of a minor, or removing, under section 39 of the same Act, the guardian of a minor, may apply to the Court of Wards to take charge. The Civil Court may, however, without an application to the Court of Wards, appoint the Collector to be guardian of the property or person, or both, of a minor, and, whenever the Collector is so appointed, he is, under the Notification published under section 23 of Act VIII of 1890, subject to the control of the Board as Court of Wards.

III.—The estates, consisting in whole or in part of land or any interest in land, of a person adjudged, under Act XXXV of 1858, to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, of which a Civil Court may apply to the Court of Wards to take charge.

IV.—Shares of disqualified proprietors in estates that have ceased to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Court of Wards may be continued under its charge.

By the term disqualified proprietors is meant—

(*a*) females declared by the Court of Wards incompetent to manage their own property;
(*b*) persons declared by the Court of Wards to be minors;
(*c*) persons adjudged by a competent Civil Court to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing their affairs;
(*d*) persons adjudged by a competent Civil Court to be otherwise rendered incapable by physical defects or infirmities of managing their own property;
(*e*) persons as to whom the Local Government has declared, on their own application, that they are disqualified, and that it is expedient in the public interest that their estates should be managed by the Court of Wards.

Besides the wards' estates described above, the Revenue authorities may be called on to take charge of attached estates. The various modes in which attachment may take place are as follow:—

(*a*) Attachment of landed property can be made under section 93 of Act VIII of 1885, whenever either the Revenue authorities or any of the individuals holding an interest in a joint undivided estate, can satisfy the Courts of Judicature that inconvenience to the public, or injury to private rights, has resulted or is likely to result from disputes existing among the proprietors of the estates. Tenures as well as estates now come under the law. The estates and tenures referred to in section 93 of Act VIII of 1885 are not wards' estates; but, if they are managed by the Court of Wards, the law declares that so much of the provisions of the Court of Wards' Act as relates to the management of immoveable property shall apply to their management. In such cases the jurisdiction of the Court of Wards is strictly confined to the estate or tenure of which the Court has been placed in charge by the Judge; and the Court of Wards has no power to interfere with any other property belonging to the owners of such estate or tenure.

(*b*) Attachment of landed property may take place under section 5, Regulation V of 1799, when no one of several claimants to the estate of a person dying intestate can give "the good and sufficient security for his compliance with the judgment that may be passed in the suit," which is requisite before he can be placed in possession of the estate under section 4; and in all cases when there may be no person authorized and willing to take charge of the landed property of a person deceased. In such cases the Civil Court is bound, under section 3, Regulation V of 1827, to issue a precept to the Collector, directing him to hold the estate in attachment, and to appoint a person for its due care and management. The appointment of a Manager is subject to the revision of the Board of Revenue.

(*c*) According to sections 503 and 504, Act XIV of 1882, the Civil Court may, with the consent of the Collector, appoint him to be the receiver of any property which is the subject of a suit or under attachment, if such property be land paying revenue to Government, or land of which the revenue has been assigned or redeemed; and place it under his management.

(*d*) The Collector may represent to the Civil Court, under section 326, that the public sale of any land, or share in land, is objectionable, and that the decree could be satisfied by a temporary alienation or management of such land or share; and the Court may authorise the Collector to make provision for satisfying the decree as proposed. Such cases, however, rarely occur in Bengal.

(*e*) Attachment may take place under section 88, Act V of 1898, which provides that a Magistrate may order the attachment by the Collector of land paying revenue to Government belonging to a person accused of certain crimes, and believed to be absconding or concealing himself for the purpose of avoiding service of warrant. Property thus attached becomes at the disposal of Government, if the absconding person does not appear within the time specified in the proclamation issued at the time of attachment. It cannot, however, be sold until six months have expired. No special mode of management is prescribed in the interim. Regulation V of 1827 would ordinarily be applied.

(*f*) Under section 56, Act VII (B.C.) of 1876, the Collector may appoint a receiver for the extent of interest in an estate or revenue-free property, in regard to which there is a dispute as to possession, succession or acquisition by transfer. The receiver is to collect the rent thereof, and from the sums so collected he is to pay the expenses of management and the revenue due to the Government. The surplus is to be held in deposit in the

Collector's treasury, and is to be paid over to the person who shall be registered by the Collector, or under the order of a Civil Court, in respect of the extent of interest in dispute.

(*g*) Encumbered estates in Chota Nagpur taken in charge under Act VI of 1876 as amended by Act V of 1884.

Duties of Court of Wards.

179. The Court of Wards was originally established for the security of the Government revenue, but Government interference on this score is no longer necessary, and revenue officers who now take charge of these estates make it their principal business to act the part of good and prudent landlords, to extricate the estate from any difficulties into which it may have fallen, and to employ surplus income in improving the estate and the condition of the tenantry. The policy laid down is as follows:—It is, in the first place, desirable in all cases to leave a ward on his attaining majority a sufficient cash balance to relieve him of any temptation to press hardly upon his raiyats or change the Court's system of management, and to enable him to meet, as other landlords do, untoward calamities of season and other exceptional demands, without being driven to borrow money or sell any part of his estate. This being borne in mind, measures should be taken to utilise surplus funds to the best advantage of the wards and their estates. It is unquestionably true that capital devoted to reproductive purposes is one of the greatest needs of these Provinces, and that money well invested in securities is money added to the reproductive capital of the country. This would be a strong argument in favour of investing the surplus funds of the estates in this manner were there any reasonable probability that the ward, when he attains his majority, would keep up the investments, not to say add to them. But all experience proves that this is very rarely done. A young man just succeeding to a large income is, when just released from the control of parents and guardians, under all circumstances, unduly tempted to spend money too freely and squander it in an extravagant manner. This temptation is enormously enhanced if he finds large investments which can be immediately realised, converted into ready money, and expended. Wards are, therefore, subjected to too great a trial if the road to ruin is made easy for them on coming of age.

The Court accordingly, while not wishing to insist on any hard-and-fast rule, looks with far greater favour on such modes of utilising the surplus funds of an estate as will offer less temptation to extravagance on the ward attaining his majority, that is, on (I) the purchase of landed property; (II) the maintenance in an efficient condition of the estates, buildings, and other immoveable property; (III) such allowances or donations befitting the position of the ward's family as the Court may authorise to be paid; and, above all, (IV) the improvement of the land and property of the ward, and for the benefit of the ward and his property generally.

(1) Heading (I) includes—

(*a*) purchase of patni tenures settled at an unduly low rent, intercalated holdings of outsiders, and neighbouring villages;

(*b*) purchase of patni, darpatni, or other mukarrari rights, subordinate to the estates or tenures of the ward, which would not only yield a direct return on the outlay, but also benefit the estate by diminishing sub-infeudation;

(*c*) release of estates or tenures (if any) belonging to the ward which have been leased in usufructuary mortgages by paying the balance of the mortgage loan;

(*d*) purchase of house property in Calcutta or other places, where it may be anticipated that houses will let for an adequate rent;

(*e*) building houses in Sadar stations or other places on land already belonging to the ward, where the houses are likely to let at an adequate rent; and

(*f*) purchasing building sites with a view to building and then letting as in (*e*).

(2) The item of expenditure under heading (II) is separately authorised by the Act, and it requires no comment other than that, where an estate has a large surplus, the buildings, &c., should be kept in thorough repair before any surplus funds are invested.

(3) The item of expenditure under heading (III) includes donations and subscriptions to dispensaries and schools. As regards dispensaries, such expenditure as is befitting the ward's position may always be freely incurred, especially in fever-stricken districts. The want of proper medical treatment and medicines is a very general one away from Sadar stations, and expenditure on this object is viewed by the Court with approval. Expenditure on schools is often looked upon with much favour locally, as it benefits the more influential classes; but such expenditure requires discrimination. Primary education in the proper sense of the word is very backward in all parts of the Lower Provinces, and expenditure on real primary schools should be freely incurred by estates with a large surplus; but a school is not a primary school because it teaches reading and writing and arithmetic, if practically monopolised by pupils who belong to the comparatively well-to-do classes, and who intend to make the elementary instruction there conveyed to them the foundation for subsequent English education. As regards English schools, any hard-and-fast rule is undesirable, especially with regard to the backward parts of the Province; such education, as is generally given in these schools, if carried no higher, and combined with no technical or professional instruction, is so common as to be unremunerative to those who expect to derive a livelihood from their attainments. It is often questionable whether estates under the Court of Wards should expend money on such institutions. The cases of female and technical education are different, nor is there the same objection to the endowment of prizes for distinguished scholars.

(4) Under heading (IV) the following kinds of improvement may be mentioned:—

(*a*) Survey and record of rights.—It is essential to good management that the rent-roll should be carefully prepared, accessible, and accurately maintained.

(*b*) Gilandazi or other irrigation works and sinking wells or digging or improving tanks for the improvement of agriculture.—Such works should readily be undertaken wherever there is any need for them, and they are likely to benefit cultivation.

(*c*) Embankment works.—These the Court does not look upon with favour, except, perhaps, when they are constructed to exclude salt water. They are often much in favour with the cultivators and the collecting agency of the estate; but, as a rule, they sacrifice the future to the immediate present, and in a few years greatly augment the difficulty of controlling the water they are meant to keep out. In no case, therefore, should embankments be undertaken without the advice of experts.

(*d*) Model farms and experiments in farming to see whether new staples can be profitably introduced or the breed of cattle improved.—It would be unjust to impose upon wards' estates the cost and risk of introducing agricultural improvements into the country; but this must not be taken to imply that where it is reasonably probable that jute or betel or sugarcane or potatoes or other crops can be advantageously introduced into any estate, experiments are not to be undertaken till it is ascertained at the expense of others that the introduction is certain to prove a success. The resources of the wards are not to be exploited for the general benefit of the country or of agricultural science; but where an intelligent and prudent landlord, anxious to see if the crops on his estate can be improved, might reasonably be expected to try an experiment, it may be tried in a ward's estate. Improved types of sugarcane mills, or ploughs, or other agricultural implements should freely be introduced whenever there is a fair prospect of their proving beneficial.

(*e*) Planting of mango topes or of other valuable trees on khas lands should not be overlooked.

(*f*) Construction and maintenance of branch or feeder roads, and of communications which cannot reasonably be required from District Boards should receive attention.

(*g*) Village sanitation.—Although the prospect of a return for the outlay incurred should, as a rule, be looked for, this is not

absolutely indispensable in improvements under heading (IV), and works tending to improve the health of the tenantry may be made the subject of a reasonable outlay. An enlightened and prudent landlord may well be expected to take an interest in the water-supply of the villages in his estate and to aid in its improvement. If there is a tank with fair drinking-water already in the village, the Manager may utilise the agency under him in protecting it from contamination. If such tanks require cleaning, they should be cleaned and then protected, and if no proper drinking-water be obtainable in villages within the estate, a proper tank might be provided. Such improvements a wealthy landlord may well be expected to make at his own cost, although the direct benefits will go to the tenants only.

(*h*) Reclamation of waste lands.—This can be done whenever the works will be profitable.

(*i*) Establishment and improvement of háts or markets.

(*j*) Advances to cultivators in the shape of either seed or cattle, or money to be expended on some permanent improvement, when given on the security of long leases and conditional on the payment of enhanced rent. Such advances would, the Government of India believe, be the means of effecting on estates, upon a large scale, improvements not only remunerative to the ward, but beneficial to his tenantry, and would indirectly by force of example, as well as directly by increase of production, tend to enhance the efficiency of agricultural operations throughout the country.

(*k*) In the case of the richer and more extensive estates, consideration may be given to large and comprehensive undertakings, such as railways, tramways, or canals. The investment of funds in railways or similar undertakings for the general improvement of the district or province would not generally be justifiable, but with some such security as a Government guarantee might be legal.

Rates.

180. General management rate.—In order to meet the salaries, travelling allowances, gratuities, pensions, and miscellaneous charges of the establishments employed in the Government offices for the performance of the work connected with the Wards' estates, contributions are levied from the estates under management. So far back as 1828-29, the "Court of Wards' Fund" was opened to exhibit charges incurred in the Board's office on account of such estates. In 1830-31 charges on the same account incurred by Commissioners and Collectors, and in 1856 advances on account of the Wards' Institution, were debited to this fund, the actual amount expended on all the above accounts being met by recoveries levied rateably on the estates under management. In May 1851, a similar account was opened for "Charges on Attached Estates." In 1863 the Board, on looking into the matter, found that the contribution was levied on different principles in different districts and divisions, some Collectors charging a percentage on the revenue paid to Government, some on the rents collected, others on the net profits, while some estates paid nothing at all.

With a view to secure uniformity of practice, various proposals were discussed, and under the orders of Government it was decided, in 1865, that, instead of realizing from time to time the precise sums expended on account of each estate, a fixed rate should be levied on the mufassal rent-roll of each to meet the charges incurred in conducting the business of the Court of Wards and of all attached estates.

The rate was fixed on a graduated scale, decreasing with the increase of rent-roll, as follows:—

	Rs.	A.
I.—From estates of which the rent-roll did not exceed Rs. 1,000, ten rates, or $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent.*	43	12
II.—From estates of which the rent-roll exceeded Rs. 1,000 and did not exceed Rs. 5,000; upon Rs. 1,000, ten rates as above, and upon the remainder, four rates, or $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.†	70	0
Total ...	113	12

* *i.e.*, Rs. 43-12.

† *i.e.*, Rs. 113-12, calculated thus—
Rs. 1,000 of rent demand at $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. ... ... Rs. 43-12
Rs. 4,000 of rent demand at $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. ... ... Rs. 70-0
Total ... Rs. 113-12

III.—From estates of which the rent-roll exceeded Rs. 5,000, but did not exceed Rs. 20,000; upon Rs. 5,000 as above, and upon the remainder, two rates, or $\frac{7}{8}$ per cent.*

IV.—Upon estates of which the rent-roll exceeded Rs. 20,000; upon Rs. 20,000 as above, and upon the rest a single rate, or $\frac{7}{16}$ per cent.†

V.—The single rate was 7 annas in every hundred rupees.

An equilibrium between income and expenditure was not attained under this differential rate, which yielded a considerable surplus, while such large estates as Darbhanga were under management, but fell into a deficit as soon as they were released. In order to produce an equilibrium and also to simplify the accounts, an all-round rate of one per cent. was imposed on the current rent and cess demand of the estates from the beginning of the year 1884-85. This rate also relieved the smaller estates and generally was in every way preferable to the arrangements formerly in force. But when the rate came to be applied to very large estates, such as the Burdwan Raj, which was brought under management at the close of 1884-85, or even to estates like Tikari and Dighaputia, it worked inequitably and disturbed all calculations, the amounts realised from the rate being greatly in excess of the services rendered. A general revision of the rate was, therefore, considered necessary. The safest plan seemed to be to retain the rate of one per cent. as the general rule and to enforce it strictly in the case of estates with a rental (including cesses) not exceeding five lakhs a year. In the case of estates with rentals exceeding five lakhs, it was left to the Board to make special proposals in each case, proportioning the rate charged to the work done for the estate. In this view the Lieutenant-Governor sanctioned from the beginning of 1886-87 a reduction of the rate to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the case of the Burdwan estate and to $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. in the case of the Tikari and Dighaputia estates.

Treasury rate.—This rate has been levied from the last quarter of the year 1879-80, in order to cover only the cost of additional establishment entertained at the Government treasury for keeping the general account of the total receipts and disbursements of each estate. It was originally fixed at $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. on the current demand of rent of each estate, but from the beginning of 1884-85 it has been levied at the same percentage on the current demand of rent and cesses combined. The only estate which has been exceptionally treated is the Burdwan Raj, which has been required to pay from the 1st April 1887, a reduced rate of $\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. on its rental and cess-roll, as it has a treasury of its own, and therefore entails little extra work on the Government treasury establishment.

Legal Remembrancer's fees.—The scale of fees, noted on the margin, has been in force from the 1st April, 1876. It was drawn up with the object of enabling the Legal Remembrancer to levy such an amount from estates as would practically be equivalent to their share of the total expenditure of his office. The payment of the fees is obligatory on all estates.

Drawing plaints, written statements and memorandum of—		
Appeal	Rs.	5 to 85
Settling appeals	,,	5 to 85
Settling petitions	,,	5 to 85
Opinion	,,	5 to 85
Compromise	,,	20 to 85
Consultation	,,	20 to 85
Motion	,,	85
Contested motion	,,	85

Audit fees.—In 1884-85 the Board arranged with the Accountant-General for a periodical audit by the Examiner of Local Accounts of the accounts of all estates with a rental and cess-roll of Rs. 50,000 and upwards. The accounts of estates having each a smaller income than Rs. 50,000 are audited by the Collector. This is considered sufficient. The fee for the professional audit by the Account Department was originally levied at $\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. on the current rent demand only, but it was subsequently calculated on the current demand of rent and cesses combined. In November 1891, the Board decided to retain the audit fee of $\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. and to use it in the case of

* *i.e.*, Rs. 245, calculated thus—

	Rs.	A.
Rs. 1,000 of rent demand at 4⅜ per cent.	43	12
Rs. 4,000 of rent demand at 1¾ per cent.	70	0
Rs. 15,000 of rent demand at ⅞ per cent.	131	4
Total ...	245	0

† *i.e.*, Rs. 376-4, calculated as follows on a rent demand of Rs. 50,000:—

	Rs.	A.
Rs. 1,000 of rent demand at 4⅜ per cent.	43	12
Rs. 4,000 of rent demand at 1¾ per cent.	70	0
Rs. 15,000 of rent demand at ⅞ per cent. ..	131	4
Rs. 30,000 of rent demand at $\frac{7}{16}$ per cent. ...	131	4
Total ...	376	4

estates with a rent and cess roll of half a lakh and above, but not exceeding five lakhs a year, and to fix in the case of estates with rentals (including cesses) exceeding five lakhs a special fee in each case, so that the fee charged would be proportionate to the work done for the estate. For the Burdwan estate a fee of $\frac{3}{32}$ per cent. and for the Tikari and Dighaputia estates a fee of $\frac{9}{32}$ per cent. on their current rent and cess demand was fixed. The fees are intended to cover the charges on account of two months' pay and local and travelling allowances of the Examiner of Local Accounts and of the salaries, travelling allowances, and contingencies of the establishment employed under that officer exclusively for the audit of the accounts of the estates.

The services of the Board of Revenue and of the Commissioners and Collectors, to whose supervision the improvements to the estates are mainly due, were given without any cost to the estates under management. A question was raised by the Secretary of State, in 1879, whether, in addition to the rates levied on account of establishment, a contribution should not be imposed for the services rendered by the various officers and departments of Government in superintending the administration of wards' and attached estates. There was much difference of opinion on the subject. The Government of Bengal considered that the services which the Board and the local revenue officers give to the wards' estates are not such as the wards should be required to pay for, and that the employment of the revenue officers on wards' work is really of as much value to the Government in its results, and to the officers themselves in the training which it affords, as it is to the wards' estates. Eventually this view prevailed, and it was decided that the existing system should remain unaltered.

The question was re-opened in 1889 by the Government of India, and the discussions which followed resulted in the passing of Act X of 1892. Section 3 of the Act empowers the Government to levy a rate on all private estates, as defined in clause (3) of section 2, in order to cover as nearly as possible the cost of all Government establishments employed and contingent expenditure incurred by the Government for the supervision and management of such estates. The rate is in no case to exceed 5 per cent. per annum. Power is reserved to the Government by section 3 to vary the rate from time to time and to reduce or remit it whenever this seems equitable, provided that whenever any considerable special establishments are entertained for an estate, its claim to a reduction shall receive due attention. Irrespective of the rate leviable under section 3, the Government may under section 4 direct, in cases where an officer of the Government is employed to audit accounts or give legal advice on behalf of any estate, the levy of a special charge to be made against the estate on account of such services.

The Government have approved the Board's proposals to levy the following rates and fees under the Act, viz:—

(1) General rate under section 3.
(2) Audit rate ... ... } under section 4.
(3) Legal Remembrancer's fees ... }

The first is a consolidated rate, including the old management and treasury rates, as well as the charge for superior supervision, authorised to be levied by section 3. It was levied from the commencement of 1893-94 at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from the Burdwan estate, at $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from the Tikari and Dighaputia estates, and at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from all other estates. The audit rate was levied at $\frac{1}{16}$ per cent. from the Burdwan estate, $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. from the Tikari and Dighaputia estates, and $\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. from the remaining estates, with a gross income of Rs. 50,000 and upwards, which were subject to audit by the Examiner of Local Accounts. These percentages were payable for 1893-94 after the accounts of estates for that year were professionally audited. Both the general and audit rates are leviable from the estates on their gross income, as defined in clause (2) section 2 of the Act. For the year 1902-1903 the general rate has been fixed at $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the Burdwan estate, 1 per cent. for the Bettiah and Hatwa estates, $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the Tikari estate and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for all other estates, and the audit rate at $\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. for the Burdwan and Bettiah estates, $\frac{3}{16}$ per cent. for the Hatwa estate, $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. for the Tikari estate, and $\frac{7}{16}$ per cent. for other estates with a gross rental of half a lakh up to five lakhs. The Legal

Remembrancer's fees continue to be levied in accordance with the scale mentioned above.

Laws.

181. Act IX of 1875, as amended by Act VIII of 1890, fixes 21 years as the age for the attainment of majority in the case of minors under the jurisdiction of the Court of Wards, or under the tutelage of Courts of Justice.

The Court of Wards' Act, IX (B.C.) of 1879, came into force in that year. The most marked changes introduced by it were the following. The Board of Revenue is now the Court of Wards for the the whole Province, previously each Commissioner being the Court of Wards for the districts of his Division. When a Civil Court has occasion to make provision for the charge of the property and person of a minor or of a lunatic, it can apply to the Court of Wards, which is empowered to undertake or to reject such charge at its discretion. Formerly, under similar circumstances, the Civil Court addressed an order to the Collector, not the Court of Wards, and he had no option but to obey it. The Court can at any time withdraw from the charge of any estate of which it has undertaken the management at the request of a Civil Court. Formerly no such power was vested in the Collector. There now is nothing to prevent the Court of Wards from giving leases extending beyond the period of a ward's minority. This is an important change, as the granting of patni leases on receipt of a premium is sometimes the best means of clearing off the liabilities of an encumbered estate.

Act IX (B.C.) of 1879 was amended by Act III (B.C.) of 1881. The primary object of the latter enactment was to admit of the payment of pensions being debitable to the wards' rate, but opportunity was taken to amend the law in other particulars. The law regarding the exemption from sale of an estate, share, or part of an estate, under the Court of Wards, was re-enacted with important modifications, and provision was made for the recovery of arrears of revenue due at the time when an estate ceases to be under charge of the Court. It is also enacted that if the Court of Wards has certified in writing, with the reason therefor, that the interests of the ward require a sale of his property, an estate may be sold for arrears of revenue which have accrued under the Court's management. The former provisions regarding the application of moneys received by the Manager, and the relative priority of claims to payment, were considered and expanded in the new law. Power is given to impose a penalty on a farmer neglecting to furnish accounts, &c. Interest on rent and costs incurred in obtaining and executing a certificate are made realizable by the same process as an arrear of rent. Provision was also made for the recovery of expenses incurred on account of property in charge of the Court, after such property has passed out of the Court's management.

Act IX (B.C.) of 1879 was again amended by Act IV of 1892, which enables the Court of Wards to take charge of (*a*) the property of persons of whom the Local Government has declared on their own application that they are disqualified, and that it is expedient in the public interest that their estates should be managed by the Court, and (*b*) a share of an estate other than an undivided share held in coparcenary as the property of a Hindu joint family governed by the Mitakshara or Mithila law.

Act VIII of 1890 came into force on the 1st of July of that year. Briefly its object is to provide a law of Guardian and Ward applicable as far as possible to all classes in British India. By it Act XL of 1858 was repealed, and section 3 of the Indian Majority Act, IX of 1875, amended.

Management.

182. Certain correspondence regarding the systems of management adopted, in different provinces was circulated during the year 1885-86 by the Government of India. It was found in Bengal that administration by paid Managers was the most effective, that existing arrangements worked satisfactorily, and that change was not desirable.

The power to use the provisions of the Certificate Act for the realization of arrears of rent and cesses in wards' estates has been curtailed, the Court having been desired to resort to the procedure only where an authentic record of the demand based on a field survey has been recorded, or where the Board have issued a formal order in the case of an unsurveyed estate, declaring it ripe for the application of that procedure.

Survey and Record-of-rights.

The orders of the Secretary of State in 1880-81 drew attention to the fact that while it is one of the first duties of a manager to adjust the accounts of his estate, and to free it from fictitious demands, it is still more important that he should carefully revise the rent-roll, raising rents which are clearly inadequate, while not hesitating to reduce those which are excessive. His aim, in fact, should be to fix fair and uniform rates. The difficulty of systematically giving effect to these general principles was, however, admitted by the Government of India, and it was suggested that the best way of doing so would be by setting on foot a systematic field survey, conjoined with the preparation of a record-of-rights in all estates in which this was possible, a proposal which had, in fact, already been anticipated in the case of many estates in Bengal.

183. During the year 1887-88 the question of undertaking a survey and record-of-rights in wards' estates under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, or under the corresponding law in districts in which that Act was not in force, was discussed. The principle was then regarded as established that surveys should only be undertaken in those estates in which funds were available, and which had no proper rent-roll upon which a certificate of arrears could be based. The Government also was of the opinion that the procedure under the Tenancy Act, which is calculated to produce very beneficial results where disorder prevails, should not be extended to other estates merely because they are large, or solvent, or valuable. The policy of Government has since somewhat changed, and, as soon as an estate comes under the Court of Wards, the first duty of the Court is considered to be to carry out the provisions of section 101 and the following sections of the Tenancy Act, that is, to have a field-measurement made and a complete record-of-rights prepared. Until such a record-of-rights is made, and every dispute between landlord and raiyat is decided and a clear account has been prepared, showing exactly what each man holds, what his tenure is and what the demand from him is, the manager of the estate is not permitted to use the certificate procedure to recover unpaid arrears, unless the Board have issued a formal order declaring the estate ripe for the application of that procedure, but must go on collecting only undisputed rents or have recourse to the ordinary law. Proposals are, therefore, submitted by Collectors, as early as possible after charge of an estate has been taken, for a survey and preparation of a record-of-rights. The state of the rent-roll, that is, whether doubt exists as to the rents payable, whether there are disputes with the tenants, and whether the rents appear to be fair, is noticed, and the funds available for the operations under the Tenancy Act are also reported on. Officers employed on settlement are guided by the following rules, which have the approval of Government:—

I.—The rent of any one raiyat, or of the holders of any one raiyati holding during any one year of the currency of a settlement is not raised, without the special permission of the Government, above the sum which would be double of the rent previously paid on account of the holding. Such permission might reasonably be sought in cases in which it could be clearly shown, by comparison of the results of present measurements with the records of a previous settlement or other papers, that the area of lands actually held by the raiyat is more than double the area which he held when his rent was last adjusted.

II.—The revenue or rent demandable from a raiyat, or from the holders of any one holding as above, in any one year, must not, in any case, exceed the revenue or rent payable by such raiyat in the preceding year by more than 20 per cent., so that when the total enhancement made at the settlement amounts to 100 per cent. on the rent previously paid, the maximum rent is in no case demanded in less than five years.

III.—In ordinary cases the period of progressive rise in respect of a rent which is double the rent previously paid extends to ten years.

The estates in which surveys and records of-rights were completed within the last nine years are noticed in the statement below:—

Estate.	Area in—		Number of tenants.	Cost.	Average cost per acre.	Rental—			Percentage of increase on previous rental.
	Acres.	Square miles.				Previous to settlement.	After settlement.	Difference [+increase —decrease].	
				Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Kanika ...	281,478·40	439·81	80,684	1,04,867	0 5 11	1,19,461	1,52,499	+33,038	27·6
Deo Kumar Dharam Kumar (3 villages).	6,933	10·8	297	1,841	0 4 3	8,801	9,805	+ 1,004	11·4
Burdwan Raj (khas mahals).	67,066	107	20,915	1,07,000	1 9 0	97,088	99,000	+ 1,913	1·97
Turkoa (Mahal Kedar).	633·29	·98	...	413	0 10 5	882	1,086	+ 204	23·1
Dakhin Shahbazpur.	93,297·86	145·79	30,125	78,261	0 13 3	1,02,830	1,09,003	+ 6,173	·6
Maldwar (lot Latijhari).	3,215	5·04	1,019	2,449	0 12 2	3,750	4,520	+ 770	20·6
Sujamutha ...	27,452	43	11,830	43,569	2 13 7	84,444	79,963	— 4,481	...
Kanakshar ...	4,912	7·6	3,371	3,121	0 10 1	14,397	14,305	— 92	...
Tikari ...	248,795	388·74	48,174	1,70,579	0 10 11	2,07,083	2,08,034	+ 951	0·4
Madhupur ...	40,524	63·3	9,670	27,000	1 4 0	19,830	27,010	+ 7,180	36
Kujang ...	146,856	229	34,622	77,491	0 8 0	1,29,886	1,32,274	+ 2,388	1·7
Narhan (portion lying in Monghyr).	30,359·36	47·43	28,813	31,002	1 2 0	45,224	45,375	+ 151	0·33
Malighati (lots Mansuka and Maricha, 8 annas share).	1,197	1·8	...	1,041	0 13 10	4,998	5,759	+ 761	15·2
Talipabad (4 estates).	43,221	71·18	7,210	35,705	0 13 2	37,082	38,212	+ 1,130	3·04

Extension of cultivation ordinarily accounts for much of the increase of rental resulting from these settlements.

The estates in Orissa, as well as in the districts of Chittagong, Muzaffarpur, Champaran and Saran have been surveyed and settled in the general operations in those districts, while those in Darbhanga and Backergunge are being similarly dealt with at the present time.

Operations under the control of the Director of Land Records have also been undertaken, and are in progress in the Surjapur pargana of the Khagra estate in Purnea; in the Deo Ward's and Deo Rani's estates in Gaya; and in 15 villages in Shahabad belonging to the Hatwa estate. Besides these, smaller settlements are being effected in some other estates, the largest of which is the Majdiha estate in Dinajpur.

Education.

184. Besides controlling the management of a ward's property, the Board are required to exercise a close supervision over his education. Wards usually attend the aided or zilla schools in the neighbourhood of their homes; but boys who show promise are sent to the local colleges, while those who exhibit exceptional ability or aptitude are allowed to attend the Presidency College. Three wards have lately been sent to the Rajkumar College at Raipur, in the Central Provinces, which is intended for boys of good family: and the result, in their cases, has been highly satisfactory. In addition to the education given to them at schools and colleges, wards usually receive private tuition at home, while boys of tender age or those who, for special reasons, are not allowed to leave their homes are similarly instructed. In point of educational attainments wards are usually not as advanced as boys who do not inherit property, but are in no way behind and probably are better educated than their contemporaries of similar position with whom the Court of Wards has no concern. It is natural that boys who have not their way to make in the world should not study with the same diligence as those whose future depends upon their exertions. During the last year or two of his minority the ward is generally placed in the Manager's

office, and the Manager is instructed to afford him every facility for acquiring a practical knowledge of business and an insight into the affairs of the estate; and sometimes the minor is deputed to the mufassal to make local enquiries on the estate, and is invited to give his opinion on questions affecting the management for the information of the Collector and the higher Revenue authorities. Of the advantages of this system there can be no question, and it may to some extent supply what is wanting in the educational training which the wards receive at school. Care is taken to see that attention is paid to the physical development of the wards, and, with a view to broaden their ideas, every encouragement is given, where circumstances permit, to their making tours through different parts of India.

Brief account of certain important estates released from the Court's management.

185. The largest of the estates released from the management of the Court of Wards during the past nine years was Dighaputia. The former proprietor, Raja Pramatha Nath Rai, who himself had been a ward of the Court during his minority, by his will bequeathed his ancestral estate to his eldest son, leaving his self-acquired property to his three younger sons. The management of the entire property of the sons by the Court extended over a period of ten years. The rent-roll of the estate was raised from Rs. 5,86,849 at the date of assumption of charge to Rs. 7,08,904 at the date of release, the increase being chiefly due to the purchase of estates, to settlement and re-settlement of waste and relinquished lands, and to properties having been brought under direct management in consequence of the default of patnidars. Although the estate was a solvent one, Rs. 80,382 only were expended in works of improvement, namely, in the construction of and repairs to roads, the excavation of tanks and wells, the cutting of canals and water-channels, the construction of sluice-gates and bridges, and other similar works. A larger sum was not expended because funds to the extent of fifteen lakhs of rupees had to be reserved for special objects. Half-a-lakh had to be provided for taking out probate of the former proprietor's will, two lakhs for dismantling and rebuilding the Rajbari, and one lakh on account of expenses connected with the ward's assumption of the management; while, according to the will of his father, the eldest ward had, when he came of age, to make over eleven and-a-half lakhs to his three younger brothers. The estate maintained two higher class English schools, nine middle vernacular and middle English schools, twenty-seven patshalas, one Sanskrit tol and two girls' schools. It also supported a boarding institution in connection with the Dighaputia School. A good library was maintained at Dighaputia at the expense of the estate for the benefit of the people. Three charitable dispensaries were entirely supported by the estate and contributions were granted to six other dispensaries. All the wards received a good English education, the second ward passing the B.A. Examination with double honours in English and Philosophy. The eldest ward was, towards the close of the Court's management, trained in zamindari business. He made good use of his opportunities and spent some hours every day in acquiring a practical knowledge of zamindari management. He concluded his educational career by a long tour throughout India in the company of his guardian.

The aggregate demand due to the estate during the Court's management was Rs. 72,19,428, of which Rs. 65,95,248 (excluding advance collections amounting to Rs. 16,308), or 97·2 per cent. on the current demand, were collected and Rs. 2,37,997 remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,86,183, which was a little in excess of half the current demand for a year. The total receipts from all sources during the management were Rs. 79,81,484 and the total disbursements Rs. 78,20,697. Rupees 15,96,890 and Rs. 8,46,251 were paid on account of demands due to Government and to superior landlords, respectively, and Rs. 8,05,400, or 11·8 per cent. on the current demand, on account of the cost of management; while the maintenance allowance of the proprietors and family, including social and religious ceremonies, amounted to Rs. 10,70,052. Besides a cash balance of Rs. 1,60,787 the estate had, on the date of its release, Government securities valued at Rs. 19,14,161.

The result of the Court's management with regard to other large estates which were released during the nine years under consideration is given in the statement on the next page. The eagerness shown in some districts, notably Chittagong, to obtain the Court's management still continues.

Statement showing the result of the Management of the Court of Wards of important Wards' and other Estates for the nine years ending 1901-1902.

Name of Estate.	Period of management.	Annual rent demand.		Aggregate collections.	Aggregate remissions.	Aggregate demand.	Outstanding balance.	Cost of management.	Amount of debts.		Amount spent on—		Amount of investments in—		Cash balance on date of release.	Whether surveyed and settled or not.	Remarks.
		At commencement of management.	At close of management.						Due by estate.	Paid off during management.	Improvements.	Schools and dispensaries.	Landed property.	Government securities.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Years.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Malighati	20	48,912	55,954	10,40,874	84,404	11,64,397	39,119	1,65,854	14,906	(a) 13,386	15,892	3,264	20,739	26,159	9,707	Rs. 8,288 were spent on survey settlement.	(a) Excluding Rs. 1,520 reduced by compromise. (b) The increase is due to a mahal, originally mortgaged to the estate, being permanently added to it, &c. (c) Excluding Rs. 10,969 reduced by compromise. The unpaid balance was Rs. 3,20,159. (d) Excluding Rs. 864 reduced by compromise. (e) Excluding Rs. 114 reduced by compromise. The unpaid balance was Rs. 1,11,129. (f) Excluding Rs. 1,278 reduced by compromise. The unpaid balance was Rs. 1,560. (g) The unpaid balance was Rs. 109. (h) Excluding Rs. 18,321 reduced by compromise. The unpaid balance was Rs. 20,000. (i) Excluding Rs. 3,84,250 reduced by compromise and Rs. 38,560 disallowed. The balance of Rs. 18,503 was a nominal debt due to the Raja's mother. (j) Excluding Rs. 9,603 reduced by compromise. The unpaid balance was Rs. 1,60,969. (k) Excluding Rs. 521 reduced by compromise. The unpaid balance was Rs. 72,476. (l) Excluding Rs. 35,496 reduced by compromise and Rs. 1,07,877 set off from the rent of property leased in usufructuary mortgage. (m) Excluding Rs. 1,646 reduced by compromise. The unpaid balance was Rs. 3,918. (n) The unpaid balance was Rs. 4,14,643. (o) Excluding Rs. 88 reduced by compromise. (p) The increase is due to the revision of the rent-roll by survey and settlement, and to the purchase of new villages. (q) Excluding Rs. 21,255 reduced by compromise.
Basudebpur ...	11	36,945	(b) 1,14,385	7,50,540	29,365	8,98,445	1,18,540	91,228	7,11,638	(c) 3,80,510	185	...	...	...	1,296	No.	
Bhawanipur ...	16	1,44,584	1,57,110	19,59,105	28,25,114	49,32,803	1,48,584	2,33,107	60,959	(d) 60,086	1,53,387	7,974	9,361	1,28,756	7,215	Rs. 1,135 were spent on survey, &c.	
Kasimbazar ...	17	2,94,564	3,54,974	56,28,099	4,07,882	65,15,904	4,79,923	10,18,292	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,59,434	1,57,305	4,55,525	4,65,647	11,253	Pargana Sarail was surveyed and settled at a cost of Rs. 1,90,124.	
Sridharpur ...	8	1,03,969	1,04,966	2,30,013	2,56,304	10,46,724	5,60,407	31,581	2,23,150	(e) 1,10,907	...	710	...	...	1	No.	
Digha-patia. Eldest Ward's estate.	9	4,36,639	4,89,254	46,95,718	1,82,021	50,97,979	2,20,240	7,17,791	67,305	(f) 64,467	80,332	1,20,763	2,65,543	14,75,550	81,267	Rs. 3,669 were spent on survey and settlement Rs. 1,651 ditto ditto.	
Digha-patia. Younger Wards'estate.		1,50,210	2,19,650	18,99,530	55,976	21,21,449	1,65,943	87,609	12,629	(g) 12,520	...	...	45,536	3,26,534	79,520		
Sankarpur	25	42,897	69,631	15,21,848	13,682	15,69,720	34,190	2,05,820	5,715	5,715	27,154	26,734	...	50,291	61,419	Yes, at a cost of Rs. 91,584.	
Ananda Chundra Roy and others.	2	53,561	51,476	1,80,397	47,322	2,74,167	46,448	18,815	...	...	2,951	803	...	...	3,170	The greater portion of the estate was surveyed and settled at a cost of Rs. 12,060.	
Courjon	24	59,841	62,894	15,95,293	61,063	16,75,437	19,061	2,06,321	1,76,662	(h) 1,37,741	4,914	3,282	...	...	15,370	No.	
Deo	10	1,44,353	73,208	7,76,090	1,10,671	10,41,267	1,54,506	1,21,148	27,30,184	(i) 22,88,871	16,335	2,779	513	...	1,933	No.	
Chandra Kumar ...	13	55,443	55,511	6,51,420	1,46,830	8,54,602	56,352	1,02,840	3,87,368	(j) 2,76,796	2,577	651	...	...	834	Yes, at a cost of Rs. 7,274.	
Paigumbarpur ...	7	60,486	56,266	3,16,480	2,43,237	6,49,721	90,004	66,495	3,11,142	(k) 2,38,145	932	182	...	...	21,363	Rs. 975 were spent on survey and settlement.	
Narhan	15	1,44,880	1,83,352	24,04,995	52,496	26,60,385	2,02,894	3,69,501	10,15,668	(l) 8,82,295	1,729	10,510	29,583	1,01,380	42,768	Rs. 2,410 were spent on survey and settlement.	
Sukraj Rai ...	8	62,760	63,657	5,00,554	52,221	5,77,089	24,314	63,481	49,345	(m) 31,781	2,200	163	2,645	20,606	14,220	Rs. 1,549 were spent on survey and settlement.	
Lachmipur ...	2	2,30,119	2,20,190	3,61,784	...	6,22,673	2,60,889	58,720	5,02,135	(n) 1,77,492	3,069	2,770	...	...	1,429	Rs. 895 were spent on survey and settlement.	
Dhalbhum... ...	13	53,052	66,660	8,34,575	1,52,727	10,74,093	86,791	90,415	3,37,300	(o) 3,37,212	8,710	15,777	...	...	50,648	Rs. 12,768 were spent on survey and settlement.	
Dhanwar	37	29,221	(p) 55,849	16,39,948	1,40,866	17,91,969	21,158	2,43,729	8,485	(q) 57,330	78,277	29,912	39,270	99,151	8,731	Rs. 69,804 were spent on survey and settlement.	

General account of tenures, under-tenures, and holdings in Bengal.

186. At the permanent settlement Government, by abdicating its position as exclusive possessor of the soil, and contenting itself with a permanent rent-charge on the land, escaped thenceforward the labour and risks attendant upon detailed mufassal management. The zamindars of Bengal Proper were not slow to follow the example set them, and immediately began to dispose of their zamindaries in a similar manner. Permanent tenures, known as patni tenures, were created in large numbers, and extensive tracts were leased out on long terms. By the year 1819, permanent alienations of the kind described had been so extensively effected, that they were formally legalised by Regulation VIII of that year, and means were afforded to the zamindar of recovering arrears of rent from his patnidars, almost identical with those by which the demands of Government were enforced against himself. The practice of granting such tenures has steadily continued, until at the present day, with the patni and subordinate tenures in Bengal Proper and the farming system of Bihar, a large proportion of the whole permanently-settled area has passed from the direct possession of the zamindars. In these alienations the zamindars have made far better terms for themselves than the Government was able to make for itself in 1793. It has rarely happened that a patni, or even a lease for a term of years, has been given otherwise than on payment of a bonus, which has discounted the contingency of many years' increased rents. It is a system by which, in its adoption by the zamindars, their posterity suffers, because it is clear that if the bonus were not exacted, a higher rental could be permanently obtained from the land. This consideration has not, however, had much practical weight with the landholders. If a gradual accession to the wealth and influence of sub-proprietors be a desirable thing in the interest of the community, then the action of the landholding class is not in this instance a subject for regret.

Patni tenures.

Ijaras of Bihar.

Darpatnis, dar-ijaras, &c.

187. The process of sub-infeudation described above has not terminated with the patnidars and ijaradars. Lower gradations of tenures under them, called dar-patnis and dar-ijaras, and even further subordinate tenures, called sepatnis, chaharpatnis, &c., have been created in great numbers. Not unfrequently, especially where particular lands are required for the growth of special crops, such as indigo, superior holders have taken under-tenures from their own tenants. These tenures and under-tenures often comprise defined tracts of land; but a common practice has been to sublet certain aliquot shares of the whole superior tenure, the consequence of which is that the tenants in any particular village of an estate now very often pay their rents to two, or even many more than two, different landlords, so many annas in the rupee to each. It must be added that in many cases where an estate or tenure has been sublet, the lessor has reserved certain portions, generally those immediately contiguous to his residence, in his own possession. These he may cultivate through raiyats, or, especially if he be a European indigo-planter, by hired labour. Such lands are called his khamar, zirat, sir, nij, nij-jot, or kamat. Sometimes he reserves also a portion in which he makes direct collection from the raiyats, and this he calls his hastabud land.

Zirat and hastabud.

Under-tenures recognised at the permanent settlement of 1793.

All the under-tenures in Bengal have not, however, been created since the permanent settlement in the manner above described. Dependent taluks, ganties, howalas, and other similar fixed and transferable under-tenures existed before that event occurred. Their permanent character was practically recognized at the time of the settlement, and has, at any rate, since been confirmed by lapse of time.

Detailed account of tenures, under-tenures, and holdings in Bengal.

Taluks (independent and dependent.)

Huzri and kharija (independent) taluks.

188. Taluks in Bengal are of two kinds, the huzuri (that is, paying to the huzur or head-quarter treasury), and kharija (that is, separated) taluks, and the shikmi (dependent), mazkuri (because they were specified in the zamindar's engagements), and shamili (from shamil, extending to) taluks. The huzuri or kharija taluks only are estates or zamindaris, the others being tenures.

Even under the Muhammadan Government the zamindars sometimes disposed of portions of their zamindaris by sale, gift, or otherwise, and occasionally portions were seized and sold for the recovery of arrears of revenue or of debts incurred by the zamindars. The persons who obtained possession of these separated portions of zamindaris either paid their quota of revenue through the zamindars or direct to the public treasury. The exactions, however, of the zamindars soon obliged them to seek separations from the parent estates and

to obtain recognition as owners of distinct estates by the ruling power. These separated portions came to be known as taluks, and the holders as independent talukdars having rights, privileges and responsibilities in all respects similar to those of the zamindars, the difference consisting in origin only.

Shikmi, mazkuri, and shamili, and other dependent tenures.

189. For convenience of collection, the Muhammadan Government sometimes entered into engagements with small proprietors to pay their revenue through the zamindars within the limits of whose estates their properties lay. The zamindars again occasionally made unauthorised transfers of land, and to conceal the fact from the Government, stipulated for the payment of their share of the revenue by the transferees through them. These tenures were recognised at the permanent settlement and known as shikmi, mazkuri, and shamili tenures. Many other dependent tenures have been created since the permanent settlement. These are the patni and other tenures which will be described in detail in the following paragraphs.

Patni, darpatni, and sepatni tenures.

190. The patni tenure had its origin in the estates of the Maharaja of Burdwan, and thence spread all over the permanently-settled area of the Province. It appears that the Maharaja first created this species of tenure in his large estates in the Burdwan and other districts, but that he extended it when, in the early part of this century, he became possessed by purchase of large estates in the district of Bankura. A patni tenure is, in effect, a lease which binds its holder by terms and conditions similar to those by which a superior landlord is bound to the State. By Regulation XLIV of 1793 the proprietors of estates were allowed to grant leases for a period not exceeding 10 years, but this provision was rescinded by section 2 of Regulation V of 1812, while by Regulation XVIII of the same year proprietors were declared competent to grant leases for any period even in perpetuity. Finally, Regulation VIII of 1819, known as the Patni Sale Law, declared the validity of these permanent tenures, defined the relative rights of the zamindars and their subordinate patni talukdars, and established a summary process for the sale of such tenures in satisfaction of the zamindar's demand of rent. It also legalised under-letting, on similar terms, by the patnidars and others. Since the passing of this law this form of tenure has been very popular with zamindars who wish to divest themselves of the direct management of their property, or part of it, or who wish to raise money in the shape of a bonus. It may be described as a tenure created by the zamindar to be held by the lessee and his heirs or transferees for ever at a rent fixed in perpetuity, subject to the liability of annulment on sale of the parent estate for arrears of the Government revenue, unless protected against the rights exercisable by auction-purchasers by common or special registry, as prescribed by sections 37 and 39 of Act XI of 1859. The tenant is called upon to furnish collateral security for the rent and for his conduct generally, or he is excused from this obligation at the zamindar's discretion. Under-tenures created by patnidars are called darpatni, and those created by darpatnidars are called sepatni tenures. These under-tenures are, like the parent tenures, permanent, transferable and heritable; and have generally the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities attached to them. They are usually granted on payment of a bonus. Section 13 of Regulation VIII of 1819 provides rules for staying the sale of a patni, if it takes place owing to the intentional withholding of payment of rent by the patnidar with the object of ruining his subordinate tenure-holders. In such cases the under-tenants are allowed the means of saving the patni tenure and their own under-tenures by paying into the Collector's office the advertised balance due to the zamindar. The patni tenure so preserved forms the necessary security to the depositors, who have a lien on it in the same manner as if the loan had been made upon mortgage. The depositors may then apply to the Collector for obtaining immediate possession of the defaulter's tenure; and the defaulter will not recover his tenure, 'except upon repayment of the entire sum advanced, with interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum up to the date of possession having been given, or upon exhibiting proof, in a regular suit to be instituted for the purpose, that the full amount so advanced, with interest, has been realised from the usufruct of the tenure.'

Tenures of Chittagong.

191. All lands in the Chittagong district, which were occupied in 1764, were measured and subsequently received a permanent settlement, the occupants

being known as tarafdars. Under these tarafdars are the talukdars, whose tenures are permanent and transferable, and under the talukdars, again, are the itmamdars and dar-itmamdars, who enjoy similar privileges.

Lands outside the areas held by the tarafdars are held by the noabad talukdars. The noabad taluks are held from generation to generation, subject to a readjustment of the revenue at each re-settlement. The last settlement was concluded in 1898 for terms expiring in 1924 and 1925 A.D.

The taluks and howlas of Backergunge.

192. The taluks of Backergunge may be classified under four heads, that is, shikmi, jangalburi, zar-kharid, and pattai. The first class has been already described. The jangalburi, or abadkari, taluks are reclamation tenures for jungle clearing and are described in section 8 of Regulation VIII of 1793. They occur chiefly in the Sundarbans portions of Backergunge and the districts contiguous to it. They are permanent tenures and were held exempt from the payment of revenue for a period, subject to a specific jama (assessment) for lands brought under cultivation. The zar-kharid taluks, found in pargana Kalikapur, are hereditary, but subject to resumption by the zamindar on failure of heirs. Pattai taluks seem only to differ from the other taluks, because the zamindars give leases for them. A great variety of intermediate tenures between the talukdar and the actual cultivator (karshadar) is to be found in this district, and in fact, there is no other district in Bengal where sub-infeudation has been carried to such an extent. These tenures are termed ausat-taluk, nim-ausat-taluk, howla, nim-howla, ausat-nim-howla, mirash-karsha, and kaimi-karsha. The word ausat means subordinate, and signifies a dependent tenure, while the word nim generally indicates that the tenure is a subdivision of the parent tenure. A howla signifies literally a charge, and is found in the chain of subordination, either direct under the zamindar or under the talukdar. This species of under-tenure originated from the circumstance that the zamindars or talukdars, unable to clear the large tracts of unreclaimed lands included in their properties, divided them into lots, placing each lot in the howla or charge of an individual and conceding to him some proprietary rights. A striking fact in this connection is that when a zamindar creates a howla, his right of creating a taluk and the talukdar's right of creating an ausat-taluk, and then again the right of creating a nim-ausat-taluk, and all above the howla, are still retained, so that when a howladar is immediately under a zamindar, he is at all times liable to be made a talukdar of the second, third, or even fourth degree. The mirash and kaimi-karsha are hereditary cultivators' tenures held at a fixed rent, and are practically of the same character. The above grades of sub-infeudation is again complicated by the introduction of the zimma system. When a talukdar or other tenant finds himself unable to cope with his superior landlord, he seeks the zimma (protection) of a neighbouring zamindar and sells or leases his tenure to him, and in return receives protection as against his proper landlord, or help to gain some other object in view. His connection with his proper landlord thenceforward ceases, and the latter receives the rent from the zimmadar.

Jotes and jotedars.

193. In Rangpur the tenant who holds direct from the zamindar is called a jotedar, and his holding a jote, whatever be its size or its rent. The large majority of the jotedars have small holdings and are raiyats proper, cultivating their lands either by their own or hired labour, or on the system of adhiyari, that is, by a division of the produce. A large number of jotedars, however, have raiyats under them who are called chukanidars or kurpa prajas. These, too, have often raiyats under them, and in some cases, especially in the large jotes, there are four or more degrees before the actual tiller of the soil is reached. Somewhat similar tenures are also found in Jalpaiguri and the Darjeeling Terai. Jotes are also found in East Jessore, and the term, like ganti in Jessore and the 24-Parganas, howla in Backergunge, Jessore and Noakhali, itmam in Chittagong, chak in the Sundarbans tract, thika in parts of the 24-Parganas, and khunt-kati in Chota Nagpur is a very common one for indicating a tenure created for the purpose of clearing waste land.

The aimas and mandali jotes or tenures of Midnapore.

194. The aimas of Midnapore are creations subsequent to the permanent settlement. The estate of Balrampur, in which they exist, was purchased by Government in 1838 at a sale for arrears of revenue. In 1875 the estate came under re-settlement. The aimadars who would not agree to the terms offered them by the Settlement Officer were then set aside, and the settlement was made

with the tenants immediately below them. Litigation ensued, and the aimadars were declared by the Civil Court to be raiyats having a right of occupancy. The settlement was then concluded with the aimadars, leaving them to settle with their under-raiyats. The rights then accorded with the sanction of the Civil Court have been ultimately agreed to, but it cannot be denied that they are less than the privileges claimed, and that the settlement is the reverse of acceptable to those most affected by it.

In parts of Midnapore bordering on the Jangal Mahals there is a class of tenure-holders termed mandals. They were originally substantial raiyats, or abadkars, who undertook to bring a tract of waste land under cultivation, paying the zamindar a stipulated sum as rent. These abadkars then reclaimed the land either themselves, or with the help of other raiyats whom they induced to settle under them; established a village, to which they usually gave their name; and, being heads of the settlements, were called mandals or head-men. The zamindar and the mandal from time to time readjust the terms of their bargain, but the former never interferes between the latter and his under-tenants. In settlement proceedings of 1839 these mandals were declared to have only the rights of sthani or khudkasht raiyats, and not to be entitled to any munafa or profit, but, though not exactly recognised as talukdars, they gradually acquired rights superior to those of ordinary khudkasht raiyats; and as they were left to make their own terms with the raiyats settled by them, they must have had a very considerable profit besides what they obtained from any land cultivated by themselves. Their mandali right became transferable by custom, and when at settlement they came into immediate contact with Government, though not recognised as regular talukdars, they were held entitled to consideration. The Government in settlement proceedings deducted 15 per cent. from the gross jama in their favour, and after some demur they accepted this as a sufficient recognition of their status.

Sarbarahkari and other tenures of Orissa.

195. The sarbarahkari tenures of Orissa are by custom hereditary, and the sarbarahkars are farmers who collect the rents, receiving a percentage of the rental as their remuneration and have also certain other rights and privileges. Analogous to these are the mukaddami, padhani and pursethi tenures of this Province.

Guzastha and gorabandi tenures of Bihar.

196. In parts of Bihar a class of tenures, known as guzastha, or gorabandi holdings, are found. These are holdings at fixed rates of rent.

Istimrari, mukarrari and maurusi tenures.

Istimrari, mukarrari and maurusi tenures are all held at a fixed rent, and are hereditary and transferable. They are created both by the zamindars and the talukdars under them. Permanent tenures existing from before the Decennial Settlement are known by the name of istimrari. Mukarrari tenures are those held at a fixed rent, but which are not necessarily hereditary. Maurusi tenures are those which are hereditary, but which are not necessarily held at a fixed rent. These distinctions of nomenclature are not, however, now observed, and the three terms are applied to tenures held at a fixed rent, and from generation to generation. They are protected from cancelment on the occurrence of a sale for arrears of revenue of the parent estate, if they existed at the time of the permanent settlement, or have been duly registered under the provisions of the sale laws. Unlike patni tenures, they can only be sold for recovery of arrears of rent in execution of a decree. They are found all over the Province.

Upanchaki tenures of Rangpur.

197. In Rangpur a permanent tenure is found which is called upanchaki. It is a perpetual holding for religious services at a nominal quit-rent, and is hereditary and transferable. If liable to enhancement of rent, it is distinguished as mazkuri.

Khanabari tenures.

Non-agricultural tenures, which are granted for building purposes to traders, artisans and other non-agricultural classes of the community and go by the name of khanabari tenures, are numerous in the populous district of the 24-Parganas.

Special tenures of Baranagar and Panchannogram.

In the vicinity of Calcutta, in Baranagar and Panchannogram there are a large number of permanent tenures of very old standing, which are saleable and heritable, the holders paying rent to Government at fixed rates.

Temporary tenures of Bihar.

198. In the Bihar districts, where there are small landowners, there has been no general creation of patni or other permanent tenures, but temporary farms and leases, called ijara, thika or mustajiri are very prevalent. The

sub-lease of a farm is called katkina. A zar-i-peshgi lease is a grant of the rent-collections, either against an advance or loan made at the time, or by way of repaying a debt already incurred.

Service tenures or holdings, Chaukidari and other chakran tenures.

199. Besides the tenures described in the preceding paragraphs, derived either from ancient rights, or created to relieve the zamindar of the trouble and risk of direct management, or of the labour and expenditure required for reclaiming waste lands, there are various service (jagir) tenures, of which the chaukidari chakran, thanadari, or phanridari, chakran, the patwari jagirs and the ghatwali tenures are the most important. The paikan jagirs of Midnapore are also noticeable.

Before the advent of the British the zamindars not only defended the country against foreign enemies with armed retainers, but also administered the law and maintained peace and order with a large force of rural police known as thanadars or phanridars, chaukidars, paiks, &c., who helped in protecting the property of the zamindar, in collecting his revenue and in doing other services personal to the zamindar. All these officers were at that time servants of the zamindar, appointed and removed by him, and often remunerated by grants of land rent-free or at a quit-rent in consideration of their services. The lands so enjoyed were called chakran, or service, lands. The effect of the Decennial Settlement was to divide them into two classes—(1) thanadari lands, which, by Regulation I of 1793, section 8, clause 4, were made resumable by the Government; (2) all other chakran lands, which, by Regulation VIII of 1793, section 41, were, whether held by public officers or private servants in lieu of wages, to be annexed to the malguzari lands and declared responsible for the public revenue assessed on the whole estate. A service tenure created for the performance of services, private or personal to the zamindar, may be resumed by him when the services are no longer required, or when the grantee of the tenure refuses to perform them. A zamindar is, however, not entitled to resume when the grant is for services of a public nature. The duty of protection having now entirely devolved on Government, the policy at present is to resume and assess all such lands as are resumable, and, accordingly, they are being converted—usually by amicable arrangement—into ordinary tenures.

The chaukidari chakran tenures are described and dealt with in Act VI (B.C.) of 1870, and land ceases to be chaukidari chakran when Government transfers it to the zamindar.

The thanadari, or phanridari, tenures of Hooghly have been dealt with under special rules.

The paikan jagirs of Midnapore were, in some instances, resumed, but were afterwards abandoned in favour of the zamindars. The latter are responsible to Government for the efficient service of the paiks, who are appointed and removed by them, preference being given to heirs of old incumbents.

The patwari jagirs, or grants for the maintenance of patwaris who keep village accounts of rents, &c., as between the zamindar and the tenant, have been resumed in Orissa and other temporarily-settled tracts, these functionaries having become mostly subservient to the zamindars. In other places they still retain their jagirs.

Ghatwali tenures.

200. Ghatwali tenures exist in the districts of Birbhum, Bankura, Burdwan, Bhagalpur, Monghyr, Manbhum, Purnea, Patna, and the Sonthal Parganas. These tenures may be generally divided into two classes, that is, (1) tenures granted for a species of military service to be rendered by guarding the ghats or passes on the western frontiers of Bengal, and (2) tenures granted on condition of rendering police service. A small quit-rent is generally paid by the ghatwals through the zamindar, in addition to the service rendered. Of recent years extensive resumptions have been made of these tenures in the districts of Birbhum and Bankura on an amicable basis, the ghatwals being released from rendering service, and recognized as subordinate tenants with rights of occupancy, while the lands have been assessed to revenue and settled with the zamindars. The Birbhum tenures have formed the subject of legislation (Regulation XXIX of 1814 and Act V of 1859).

Bhuinhari tenures of Chota Nagpur.

201. In the Chota Nagpur Division there are special tenures, called bhuinhari, which are liable to rent, if proof of the payment of rent can be adduced, and to services of various kinds, such as burden-carrying, supplying

free labour for building purposes, &c. The bhuinhars seem to have been the original reclaimers of the soil. Friction having arisen from alleged encroachments by landlords on bhuinhari lands, the bhuinhars claimed half the lands of the villages rent-free and, on opposition from the landlords, committed riots which led to the passing of the Chota Nagpur Tenures Act, II (B.C.) of 1869. The rights of the bhuinhari tenure-holders were fixed by the Bhuinhari Commissioners and recorded in the official registers. In the settlement of the estate of the Maharaja of Chota Nagpur he was recorded as having a right to predial services, gifts and bethbegari (free labour) from the holders of the bhuinhari tenures, but similar rights of the superior holders under the Maharaja over these tenure-holders were commuted into cash, and the amounts so ascertained were included in the rental. The bhuinhari tenures are now recognised as transferable.

Raiyati tenures.

202. The lowest in the chain of sub-infeudation are the raiyats and under-raiyats. Raiyats were formerly divided into two classes, known as khudkasht (resident) or paikasht (non-resident) or, as in Orissa, thani and pahi, but by the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, they have been finally classified into tenants holding at fixed rents or rates of rent, and settled, occupancy and non-occupancy tenants. Settled raiyats are those who have held land in a village continuously for twelve years. They have occupancy rights in all the lands held by them, or which they may acquire, in such a village. Some special forms of tenancies, however, exist which may be noticed. In Bihar many raiyati tenures are held on the bhaoli system, the tenants paying in grain a proportion of the produce, and the zamindars being liable for the maintenance of the means of irrigation. The bhaoli system is classified into (1) danabandi, when the division of produce is pursuant to an estimate or appraisement of the standing crop, and (2) agorbatai, when a division is made of the grain when threshed out. In Nadia, Jessore, Murshidabad and Pabna, again, many tenancies are held on the utbandi system, according to which the raiyats pay rent on the lands actually cultivated, subject to measurement. These raiyats cannot acquire rights of occupancy until they have held their lands continuously for twelve years. The zamindar may let in jama to another raiyat any land which the utbandi raiyat has not under cultivation in any year. A peculiar form of cultivating tenure, known as halhasila, prevails over a considerable portion of the Bhagalpur Division. The tenant pays rent for the lands cultivated by him according to the nature of the crops grown on them, and for the fallow lands at the rate which he paid for the same land in the previous year, or according to the rate for the fallow land specified in his lease, when there is a lease and a condition to that effect.

Bhaoli, utbandi and halhasila systems.

The under-raiyat, who is known in different localities as kurfa, adhiyadar and bargadar, either pays rent in cash to the raiyat under whom he holds, or gives him a share of the produce of the holding. He is liable to ejectment (*a*) on the expiration of the term of a written lease, and (*b*) when holding otherwise than under a written lease, at the end of the agricultural year next following the year in which a notice to quit is served upon him by his landlord.

Revenue-free tenures.

203. In addition to all the above tenures there are numerous small plots of land held revenue-free, the large majority of which were granted by former Governments, or zamindars under those Governments, as benefices or religious endowments—grants which have since been recognized and confirmed by the English Government.

Jagirs.

204. Jagirs were an assignment, not of the land itself, but of the revenue to which the State was entitled. The revenue was in some cases entirely remitted, while in others a quit-rent was retained. These jagirs were usually hereditary. They were often granted by former Governments to favourites of the Crown. If granted for the maintenance of zamindars and their families, they were called nankar jagirs.

Lakhiraj tenures.

205. Lakhiraj tenures are of two kinds—bahali, that is, confirmed, and bazyafti, that is, resumed and assessed at favourable rents. Bahali lakhiraj tenures are again subdivided into badshahi (royal) and hukumi (granted by officials). The former with their sub-tenures are known by various names, such as altamgha, aima, and madadmash, while the latter are distinguished by such names as brahmottar, debottar, mahattran, etc. The owners of the bahali

lakhiraj tenures, although exempted from paying any revenue, are held liable to pay local cesses of general application.

The principles according to which the British Government dealt with these jagirs and lakhiráj tenures are given under the head "Resumption Proceedings," at the beginning of this section.

Revenue-free tenures created by the British Government fall under two heads, that is—

(1) railway and other lands sold in fee simple, and
(2) petty estates the revenue of which has been allowed to be redeemed by the payment of their capitalised values.

Rent-free tenures or holdings.

206. Following the example of former Governments in creating revenue-free tenures, the zamindars also have created many rent-free tenures on their estates in favour of Brahmins for religious and other purposes, to relatives and dependents for maintenance, and to servants for service. These are not recognised by the Government.

Statistics of land tenures in the Lower Provinces.

207. The principal classes of land tenures prevalent in these Provinces have been described above, but no exact statistics of their number, area, etc., are available. It would appear, however, that at the end of 1901-1902 there were in the Lower Provinces:—

Revenue-paying estates	187,747
Revenue-free estates	49,837
Revenue-free holdings (paying cess direct)	108,848

Transfers of tenures and holdings and their official registry.

208. The provisions of sections 12 to 15, 17 and section 18 (*a*) of the Bengal Tenancy Act provide a system of official registry of the transfers of, and successions to, permanent tenures and holdings at rents, or rates of rent, fixed in perpetuity, and shares of such. The working of these sections has been the subject of much complaint. The receipt and transmission of the fees and the serving of the requisite notices have largely increased the work of the officers concerned. The abolition, in 1896, of the system of tendering payment to zamindars of fees realized before placing them in revenue deposit, and the substitution of the practice of placing them at once in deposit pending application for payment by the zamindars, has reduced the chances of fraud, but has given no material relief as to work. The landlords have from the first shown a general disinclination to accept the fees, lest their acceptance should be construed into an acknowledgment of the right to transfer. To encourage applications for refunds of fees kept in deposit the Board, with the concurrence of Government, reduced the stamp fees on such applications in 1894, but, although there appears to have been some improvement, the percentage of payments is still very small.

The total number of notices of transfers of tenures and holdings at fixed rents or rates of rent, by sale, gift or mortgage, received since the passing of the Act is 619,046; of transfers by sale in execution of decrees, 46,784; and of transfers by succession, 15,509. The small number of notices of transfer by succession is noticeable; and it is clear that the provision requiring the persons succeeding to give notice of such transfers has been largely ignored. The notices of transfer by sale, gift or mortgage were very numerous in 1886-87 and 1887-88. After that there was a considerable decrease, but since 1900-1901 the number has risen considerably. The explanation is that, in the years 1886-87 and 1887-88, notices of transfers of occupancy holdings, as well as of shares of tenures and holdings at fixed rents, or rates of rent, were accepted. Later on a large reduction took place in the number of notices filed because, under the rules of the Registration Department then in force, they were served only in cases of transfer of entire tenures or holdings at fixed rents, or rates of rent. In 1899, however, the procedure was changed, and notices of transfer of fractional parts of tenures and holdings at fixed rents, or rates of rent, were accepted.

In view of the complaints of the landlords and the apparent uselessness of the labour imposed on the Registration Department and the Collectorates, since the service of notice on, and offer of payment of the fee to, the landlord

do not *per se* render transfers valid, the question of retaining or repealing these provisions has been discussed. It has not, however, been deemed expedient to undertake separate legislation on the subject. Legislation would more appropriately form part of any general amendment of the Act.

The High Court has ruled that transfers of tenures under section 13 of the Act, in which the landlords' fees have not been paid by the party liable, are not valid, and the Civil Courts, acting upon this principle, have declared that transfers of shares of tenures under section 12, when such fees have not been paid, are void. As numerous transfers have, in fact, been made without payment of fees, it has been deemed necessary to introduce a Bill in the Bengal Council to declare that registered transfers and sales made by the Civil Courts shall not be held to be invalid merely on the ground that the landlord's fee has not been paid at the same time the landlord's right to recover the fee from the transferee is recognised.

Rent of under-tenures and raiyats.

209. The general provisions of the Regulations of 1793 were in favour of the tenant. The theory of the permanent settlement was to give to all under-holders, down to the raiyats, the same security of tenure as against the zamindars which the zamindar had as against the Government. Sub-holders of taluks and other divisions under the zamindars were recognized and protected, subject to the payment of the established dues. As respects the raiyats, the main provisions were these: all extra cesses and exactions were abolished, and the zamindars were required to specify in writing the original rent payable by each raiyat of the established rates of the pargana. If any dispute arose regarding the rates to be so entered, the question was to be "determined in the civil court of the zilla in which the lands were situated, according to the rates established in the pargana for lands of the same description and quality as those respecting which the dispute arose." It was further provided that no zamindar should have power to cancel the leases, except on the ground that they had been obtained by collusion at rates below the established rates, and that the resident raiyats should always be entitled to renewed pattas at these rates. In fact, fixity of tenure, and perhaps also fixity of rent-rates, were intended to be secured to the raiyats by law. It has already been pointed out that provision was made for kanungos and patwaris, one object of whose appointment was declared to be "to prevent oppression of the persons paying rent." On behalf of the raiyats it was a record-of-rights only that was wanting. The status that was designed for the tenantry was, however, much impaired, and to a large extent destroyed by the great powers subsequently given to the zamindars under the old haftam (seventh) and panjam (fifth) regulations with a view to enable them to realise their rents. Under the haftam process (Regulation VII of 1799), the person of the raiyat could be seized in default; under the panjam process (Regulation V of 1812) his property could be distrained, and in either case the proceedings commenced by what has been described as a strong presumption, equivalent to a knock-down blow, against the raiyat. Although the rights of the raiyat were not defined in the Regulations of 1793, the power of ascertaining and settling them was reserved, and it seems clear that to the raiyats belonged the right to have the proportion of the produce payable by them determined by Government. To remedy this state of things the whole rent law was remodelled by Act X of 1859. By this law the cultivators were divided into four classes:—

(1) Those who had held their lands at fixed rates of rent since the time of the permanent settlement.
(2) Those whose rent had not been changed for twenty years.
(3) Those who had held for twelve years.
(4) Those who had held for less than twelve years.

Act X of 1859.

210. The Act provided that the rent of the first class of tenants should not be raised at all; that the cultivators of the second class should be presumed to have held since the permanent settlement, unless the contrary was proved; on the third class it conferred a right of occupancy, under which the rent could only be enhanced for certain specified reasons, and by a certain procedure; while to the fourth class the Act gave no vested rights, but left them (unless they were protected by local custom) in the position of mere

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tenants-at-will. The Act also abolished the zamindars' power to compel the attendance of raiyats against their will, amended the law of distraint, made provision for the interchange of pattas and kabuliyats between landlord and tenant, the delivery of receipts for rent by the former, and the registration of transfers of tenures, and afforded the remedy of a summary process for the settlement of disputes about rent. Rent suits were at first tried in revenue courts, but were in 1869 transferred to the civil courts. The experience of twenty years having shown that the provisions of the Act were inadequate to accomplish the objects for which it was framed, the Government issued a year. The Commission in 1879 to enquire into the matter.

Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885.

211. The Rent Law Commission, on the 19th June 1880, submitted their report with a draft Landlord and Tenant Bill, which purported not only to amend, but to consolidate, the whole rent law of Bengal. The Bill was, however, not accepted in its entirety by Government. Further discussions ensued, and subsequently a Bill was drafted by the Government of India and introduced into Council on the 2nd March 1883. A further draft was prepared, and finally on the 14th of March 1885 the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, became law, but did not come into force till the 1st of November of the same principal changes in the law are as follow:—

(1) A raiyat becomes a "settled raiyat," and acquires rights of occupancy in all the lands he holds in a village, provided he has held any land for twelve years in the same village. It is not now necessary that he should have held the same particular land, or that he should have held all the land, for twelve years, as was the case before. If he has held any land for twelve years in a village, he acquires occupancy rights in all the land he holds, or may in the future hold, in that village.

(2) In any proceeding between a raiyat and his landlord it is to be presumed that the raiyat is a "settled raiyat" until the contrary is proved or admitted.

(3) The grounds on which a settled raiyat's rent may be enhanced have been modified, and the enhancement of his rent by suit has been facilitated; but, on the other hand, the enhancement of his rent by contract has been restricted, and now there are few important rights conferred on him by this Act which a raiyat is competent to contract himself out of.

(4) All notices of enhancement have been abolished by this Act, owing to the difficulty experienced in drawing them up in accordance with the provisions of the former law, as well as of proving their service. The institution of the enhancement suit is now all the notice of enhancement required to be given to the tenant.

(5) If an occupancy raiyat's rent has once been enhanced by contract or suit, no suit for the further enhancement of his rent except on the ground of a landlord's improvement will lie until after the expiry of fifteen years.

(6) An occupancy raiyat or his landlord is empowered to apply for commutation of rent payable in kind to a money-rent.

(7) A non-occupancy raiyat can now be ejected at the will of his landlord, only if he has been admitted to the occupation of the land under a registered lease, and after the service on him of a six months' notice to quit, and within six months of the expiration of the term of his lease.

(8) A non-occupancy raiyat, who objects to pay an enhanced rent, can now have his rent fixed by the Court. If the raiyat refuses to pay the rent so fixed, he can be ejected. But if he agrees to pay it, he is entitled to remain in occupation of the land at that rent for five years.

(9) A landlord is now bound to retain the counterfoil of every receipt he gives to a tenant, which receipt has to contain certain specified particulars, and every tenant is now entitled, at the end of each year, to a receipt in full or a statement of account up to the close of the year. Further, a receipt which does not contain substantially the particulars required by law will be presumed to be a receipt in full up to date.

(10) Provision has been made for tenants making improvements in their holdings and for their recovering compensation for them in the event of eviction. A system of registering improvements, whether made by the tenant or the landlord, has also now been introduced.

(11) Power has now been given to a landlord, with the sanction of the Collector, to acquire the land of any of his tenants' holdings for building, religious, educational, or charitable purposes.

(12) No tenant can now be ejected except in execution of a decree.

(13) Provision has been made for the appointment of common managers in the case of disputes arising between the co-owners of estates.

(14) Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, the Act under which all settlements of Government and other estates were previously made by Government, was repealed by this Act. Government is consequently placed on the same footing as other proprietors with regard to its tenants, except that it retains the certificate procedure for the speedy recovery of the arrears of rent due to it. Further, as regards the record of the rights and the fixing of the rents of tenants of lands under settlement, such settlements will have ordinarily to be made under the provisions of this Act.

(15) In Chapter X provision is made empowering the Local Government, in any case with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, and without such sanction in any of the cases mentioned in clause (2) of section 101, to order that a survey and record-of-rights be prepared in respect of the lands in any local area, estate, or tenure, or part thereof, by a revenue officer, and when any such record-of-rights and settlement of rent is proceeding, the ordinary Civil Courts are precluded from entertaining any suit for the alteration of the rent or the determination of the status of any tenant in the area to which the record-of-rights relates.

(16) Power is given to the Local Government, on its own motion, or on the application of a tenant, to survey and define a proprietor's private or demesne land, in which rights of occupancy cannot be acquired. Restriction has also been placed on the conversion of ordinary raiyati land into khamar land, so as to prevent a proprietor, in future, from putting obstacles in the way of the acquisition of occupancy-rights by his tenants.

(17) The landlord's power of distraint has been curtailed. A landlord can now only distrain through the Civil Court, and notwithstanding the distraint, the tenant is entitled to reap, gather, and store the produce, and do anything necessary for its preservation.

(18) A landlord can no longer harass his tenant by instituting successive suits for arrears of rent against him. Three months must elapse between each successive rent-suit.

(19) A decree for arrears of rent can no longer be executed by any one who has not acquired the landlord's interest in the land; but, on the other hand, the holder of a decree for arrears of rent is no longer subject to any restrictions in the execution of his decree. He is not now bound to proceed in the first instance against the moveable property and person of his judgment-debtor, then against the tenure or holding itself on which the arrears have accrued, and finally, against the other immoveable property of the tenant, but is at liberty to execute his decree in any way that is lawful under the Civil Procedure Code, while the tenant's tenure or holding is hypothecated for the rent, and no transfer of it is valid, while the arrears of rent which have accrued on it remain unsatisfied.

(20) The disabilities of minority and lunacy do not now apply to rent-suits.

Act V (B.C.) of 1894 was passed to remove doubts which had existed in connection with the resettlement of land revenue in temporarily-settled areas, but this Act was in its turn repealed by Act III (B.C.) of 1898, which introduced important amendments into the Bengal Tenancy Act, including the remodelling of Chapter X of the Act. A new definition of "prevailing rate" was enacted with the object of facilitating the ascertainment of the prevailing rate of rent, but this definition only comes into effect in districts, or parts of districts, to which it is specially extended, and it has only been extended at present to Orissa and the district of Tippera. In amending Chapter X of the Act, the opportunity was taken to introduce a more summary procedure for settling rents in cases where a settlement of land revenue is being or is about to be made. The Revenue Officer in such cases now prepares a settlement rent-roll in which the rent of such tenant, as settled by him, is entered. Rents entered in a settlement rent-roll which has been only published are

final, subject to a suit which may be brought within six months of publication upon certain specified grounds, among which the fairness of the rate of the rent fixed is not included.

The Bengal Tenancy Act is not in force in the Chota Nagpur Division, and in the districts of Darjeeling and the Sonthal Parganas. Certain portions of it were extended to the Orissa Division, this measure being deemed desirable in connection with the re-settlement operations recently completed.

From the reports received, it appears that the almost unanimous opinion is, that the Act has worked smoothly, and has had no tendency to foster litigation. The great mass of the tenantry are still unfamiliar with the important changes effected in the law in their interests, but, particularly in districts in which survey and settlement operations have been effected, a closer acquaintance with the provisions of the Act has resulted, and the tenants have learned to appreciate their rights, and the landlords to respect them. The relations between the parties have not been generally disturbed, and the Courts have not been, on the whole, more largely resorted to than formerly for the settlement of disputes. On the contrary, greater clearness and definiteness in the law have proved an advantage to both sides, and the Act has benefited both landlords and tenants, and, above all, peace-loving and fair-minded landlords and tenants,—the tenants perhaps the most, but still the landlords also to an appreciable extent. The mere existence of its provisions on the Statute Book, especially those relating to the right of occupancy, unquestionably confers greater security on the tenants.

Waste lands.

212. In Assam and Cachar on the Himalayan slopes to the north of Bengal, in the Terai at the foot of the Himalayas, on the uplands behind Chittagong, and in the Sundarbans, or jungle tract between the cultivated districts of the Gangetic delta and the Bay of Bengal, there are large uncultivated wastes which belong to Government. So far as they are not to a small extent occupied by aboriginal tribes and scattered settlers, these lands have in past years been leased, sold and granted to settlers in one of two methods, viz., either in accordance with the sale rules known as the fee-simple, or Lord Canning's rules of 1861, or in accordance with the practice sanctioned by Government, which allowed Collectors of certain districts a discretion in giving cultivation leases of certain waste lands.

Lord Canning's Minute of the 17th October 1861 laid down three main principles on which grants of waste lands were to be made in future. These were, *first*, that "in any case of application for such lands they shall be granted in perpetuity as a heritable and transferable property, subject to no enhancement of land revenue assessment;" *second*, that "all prospective land revenue will be redeemable at the grantee's option by a payment in full when the grant is made, or, at the grantee's option, a sum may be paid as earnest at the rate of 10 per cent., leaving the unpaid portion of the price of the grant, which will then be under hypothecation, until the price is paid in full;" and *third*, that "there shall be no condition obliging the grantee to cultivate or clear any specific portion after grant within any specific time." The minimum price for the fee-simple was fixed at Rs. 2-8 per acre, so that by paying 10 per cent. of this, or four annas per acre, a title was obtained. Moreover, many large tracts were for a merely nominal payment obtained by speculation in anticipation of measurement. A despatch from the Secretary of State subsequently required in addition to these provisions that grants should be surveyed before sale, and that all sales should be by auction to the highest bidders above a fixed upset price.

In granting waste lands under the above rules, some abuses were unfortunately allowed to occur. There was a great rush for tea-planting; speculators bought upon credit Government wastes wherever they could get them, and Government officers were so far carried away by the mania that they relaxed the rules as to surveying wastes before they were sold and in other particulars. It followed that large areas of waste lands were sold to jobbers, who transferred them at a profit or threw them up if they could not transfer them; while in many cases cultivated lands not regularly settled were sold as "Government waste lands" over the heads of the occupiers. In other cases, lands beyond the British border, in others again valuable forest lands were sold under the waste land rules. Before Sir George Campbell came to Bengal

attention had been directed to this matter, and, in Chittagong especially, mistakes had been recognized. There had in more than one instance been risk of grave disturbance with frontier tribes on account of ill-judged sales of waste land in the occupation of border people. To prevent complications, the Lieutenant-Governor published *ad interim* rules, which received sanction, and orders were passed that no more land should be sold revenue-free in perpetuity without the previous sanction of the Government of India, excepting such small plots, not exceeding 10 acres in extent, as might be required for buildings or gardens.

In 1874 revised rules for the sale of waste lands, superseding all previous rules for the sale and lease of waste lands within the Lower Provinces, were issued. The formation of the Chief Commissionership of Assam had by that time withdrawn the districts in which the chief transactions in waste lands used to occur from the control of the Bengal Government, and, in the districts left to the Lower Provinces in which there are waste lands, these sale rules remained inoperative, the terms having failed to attract applicants, and eventually in May 1879 the sale rules were withdrawn, and the only rules now in force in Bengal are those under which waste lands are leased for certain terms of years.

Waste lands capable of being leased exist in the Sundarbans, the Western Duars of Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Chittagong, Palamau and Ranchi. The tea lease rules for the Duars, of 1875, were at first extended to Palamau, but were found inapplicable, and applications for waste land there are dealt with on their own merits. For the other districts there are different sets of rules. It may be here observed that one feature in Chittagong and the Sundarbans is that the leases are sold by auction.

There are two classes of lease rules—

(1) Those for larger capitalists wishing to grow special crops, as tea, coffee or cinchona.

(2) Those for small capitalists for ordinary cultivation.

213. In consequence of a re-adjustment of the boundary between Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri, the issue of orders which indirectly affected the rules, and the grant of certain concessions on the part of Government, such as extending the term for renewed leases, reducing the fee to be charged on transfers, and permitting partial transfers, the tea lease rules of 1878 and the Duars arable land lease rules of 1875 were revised, and were published on the 16th May 1888, superseding all those previously passed for these two districts. A revised set of tea lease rules introducing slight changes in the previous rules was published by Government Notification No. 2453L.R., dated 30th April 1894. The Indian Tea Association having taken exception to the revised rules, they were again modified in the year 1896, and were published by Government Notification No. 3728L.R., dated 14th September 1896. Darjeeling. Jalpaiguri.

The main features of the rules of the first of the two classes above mentioned applicable to both Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling are the following:—

Declared forest reserves and land having valuable timber in compact blocks, lands in which other rights exist, lands lying within 60 feet from the centre of any public road, and lands expressly exempted by Government, are not to be granted. Each lot must be compact, and not contain ordinarily more than 1,500 acres. On special grounds, however, the Commissioner may sanction grants up to 1,800 acres, the Board of Revenue up to 3,000, while grants in excess of the latter limit require the sanction of Government. In all cases the applicant must give evidence or guarantees that he has *bonâ fide* at his command sufficient capital to enable him to open out the grant. The holder of a grant can apply for a second grant if he can satisfy the Deputy Commissioner and superior revenue authorities that he has *bonâ fide* at his command sufficient capital to warrant the concession, and if he has fulfilled all the conditions attaching to his existing grant. Tea lease-holders may obtain arable grants contiguous to their tea lots. Inquiry and survey at the expense of the applicant must ordinarily precede the grant of a lease. A preliminary five-years' lease is granted rent-free for the first year, and at progressive rents for the rest of the term. The rights conveyed are heritable and transferable, provided that the whole lot is transferred, that clearance conditions are duly observed; that

a transfer fee has been paid, that the transferee has *bonâ fide* at his command sufficient capital to enable him to cultivate the grant, and that the transfer is registered in the Deputy Commissioner's office within one month of the registration of the deed of transfer. The right of Government to minerals and quarries, and to payment for valuable trees on the grant, and the right of the public to fisheries, and a right of way along the banks of navigable streams are reserved, while provision is made for public access to springs of water on the lands leased, when necessary to insure a supply to persons residing in the vicinity, for the construction and maintenance of proper boundary marks, for the presence of the lessee himself or of a resident manager on the grant, for reports of births and deaths of residents on the area granted, for information as to the progress and outturn of cultivation, for the acquisition by Government of any land required for public purposes free of cost, except by proportionate reduction in the rent and by the payment of the value of any improvements in the land taken up, and for dealing with excess lands found in the possession of the lessee. In the event of the provisions of the Chaukidari Act being enforced in any tea garden, the lessee is bound to furnish accommodation for the residence of the chaukidar and to see that he receives his pay punctually. Grantees can club or amalgamate their grants by transfers, duly registered, on payment of the prescribed fee. But no isolated grant can be amalgamated with other grants lying more than two miles away from it. Government reserves the right to exclude any particular area from the operation of the rules and to sell grants in that area by auction. If, after inspection during the term of the preliminary lease, 15 per cent. of the total area shall have been brought under cultivation and actually bears tea plants, the lessee is entitled to a renewal for a term of 30 years, and to similar renewals in perpetuity, provided that Government may fix the rent on certain specified conditions on each renewal; that the renewed lease be heritable and transferable in whole or in part with due sanction and after proper registry; and that all the other conditions of the preliminary lease hold good. Failure to comply with any of the conditions renders the lessee liable to forfeiture of his lease; and failure to comply with the clearance conditions of his preliminary lease reduces him, if he is allowed to continue, to the status of a tenant-at-will, the term of grace being limited to three years, within which, if he clears 15 per cent. of the total area, he may obtain a renewed lease.

The second class of rules for small capitalists, as applicable to the Duars, were published on the 16th May 1888, and correspond in the main with the rules for the grant of leases for tea cultivation. The differences are briefly these. Ordinarily the lot must not be less than 10 acres or contain more than 200 acres, but exceptions may be made up to a maximum of 400 acres. The survey fee is to be three annas an acre, and no further sum will be demanded except the actual cost of fixing the boundary, clearing and surveying it and putting up boundary marks, while in the case of tea leases the fee is fixed at one rupee an acre, and the applicant, if the expense exceed the deposit, has to make good the deficiency. Grants under these rules are heritable and transferable. Tea may not be cultivated on the area covered by the lease if that area exceeds 200 acres. No clubbing or amalgamation of grants is allowed, and all land bearing tea will be forfeited to Government if more than one grant becomes the property of the same owner except by inheritance. Renewal of the preliminary lease is conditional on one-half of the total area held being occupied by homesteads, or cultivated or left fallow, according to good husbandry, or otherwise fairly turned to account for agricultural purposes. The periods of renewals are to be conterminous with the period of settlement in the pargana, current at the time of renewal. Subinfeudation in the first degree only is allowable. The sub-tenant is, however, to have from the lessee the same promise of renewal as the lessee himself has from Government, and the sub-tenant's rent is to be determined by the Deputy Commissioner. Failure to apply for a renewal before the expiration of the preliminary lease reduces the lessee to the status of a tenant-at-will till other arrangements are made. Rates of rent on renewal of the lease have been fixed both in the case of tea leases and of leases of arable lands. Where half the area of the grant of the arable land has not been brought under cultivation, the renewed lease shall ordinarily include an area of waste land equal to the extent of land brought under cultivation during the currency of the preliminary

lease, but in such cases the Deputy Commissioner has the power, under certain restrictions, of refusing renewal altogether, or of allowing it on special conditions. Each description of land, tea, bastu, bambu, rupit, faringhati and waste, is charged at the rate fixed in the pargana wherein it is situated, provided that in the case of tea leases the total rent payable under the renewed lease shall not be less than 12 annas an acre on the entire area of the land leased, and in the case of arable leases not less than eight annas an acre. Also as regards these latter leases, the rent on each occasion of renewal shall not, without the special orders of Government, exceed double the rent previously paid. In the case of tea leases in the hills of the Darjeeling district, an all-round rate of one rupee an acre will be imposed on renewal of the lease, subsequent to the expiration of the preliminary lease. For small capitalists it has been decided that no rules are necessary for Darjeeling.

214. The grant of leases for tea cultivation in the Chittagong Hill Tracts used to be made under a set of rules based on the tea lease rules in force in the Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts and published on the 30th June 1879. In 1900 the Chittagong Hill Tracts Regulation was passed, and a set of rules for the administration of the Hill Tracts were published. These rules supersede those previously in force and under them the Hill Tracts are divided into three circles, and these again into mauzas. The Bahmong Chakma and Mong chiefs are charged with the administration of the three circles, while headmen who are appointed by the Superintendent of the Hill Tracts, in consultation with the chiefs and the inhabitants of the mauzas, collect rents under the control and authority of the circle chiefs. **Chittagong Hill Tracts.**

The rules allow the gazetted officers of Government, the chiefs and the headmen to grant to any suitable person wishing to open plough cultivation, the requisite authority to do so, specifying the terms. The rents for non-agricultural sites, excepting those for bazars, are fixed by the Superintendent. In every mauza, 50 acres of the best arable land in one block, or in area or areas as nearly approaching 50 acres as may be practicable, are demarcated, and set apart as the khas land of Government for the remuneration of village officials. All lands held for plough cultivation on lease from Government are subject to the condition that they cannot be sub-let or transferred, except on hereditary succession, or with the consent of the Commissioner. Grass *kholas* and *garjan kholas* in the Hill Tracts are settled by the Superintendent either yearly or for periods of not more than 10 years in any case.

215. There are no rules for leases to large capitalists in this district. For small capitalists, the waste lands used to be broken up into compact blocks of 50 acres each, and the lease of each lot sold by public competition. There was no restriction as to the kind of crops that might be grown. The whole of the waste lands were not thrown open at once for sale, but the leases of the surplus waste land blocks in one village at a time used to be put up to auction on a given day. These rules proved inoperative, and a revised set of rules was published by Government Notification No. 2250L.R., dated 30th April 1895. **Chittagong.**

In a deltaic tract large and compact areas must be leased to admit of economical embanking. To avoid interference with the operation of the Forest Department, no large unculturable tract and no lands surrounded by hills or proposed for enforestation should be included in the lease. No land within 60 feet from either side of a District Board road should be settled. The persons admitted to settlement must be substantial men, and when several persons of equal merit apply for the same area, it may be put up to auction and settled with the highest bidder. When the area requires embanking on an extensive scale, a joint lease may be given to a number of substantial persons. The term of settlement will expire at the same time as the Noabad taluki settlement of the thana in which the lands are situate. The rates are to be fixed with reference to the initial expense of bringing the lands under cultivation, the quality of the lands, the charge for repairs of embankments, &c. If a survey is necessary, the applicant must deposit a sum not exceeding 4 annas per acre, and, if the cost of survey exceeds 4 annas per acre, he has to pay the balance. The leases are heritable and transferable. The other provisions generally follow the rules for the grant of tea leases in Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling, so far as they are applicable.

Sundarbans.

216. The Sundarbans lease rules of 1853 were virtually superseded by the several sets of sale rules issued since 1862; but as these latter proved inoperative, transactions used now and again to take place under the rules of 1853. A revised set of lease rules for large capitalists was published in 1879.

These differ from the rules of 1853 in providing a rent-free period of only ten years, and in laying down only one clearance condition, viz., that one-eighth of the entire grant should be rendered fit for cultivation at the end of the fifth year. This condition may be enforced either by forfeiture of the grant or by the issue of a fresh lease, omitting the remainder of the rent-free period, and requiring payment of rent at enhanced rates during the term of the grant. The rules also provide for gradually increasing rates of assessment after the expiration of the rent-free period, and varying rates within different tracts according to the rent-paying capabilities of the land. It is further provided that there shall be constantly recurring renewals of the lease on resettlement. The term of the original lease is fixed at forty years, and resettlements are to be made after periods of thirty years, maximum rates being laid down for each resettlement.

The limits within which lands may be leased are fixed in consultation with the Forest Department. An accurate definition of boundaries is provided for. The maximum area of grants is restricted to 5,000 bighas, the minimum being 200. Cultivation must not be scattered all over the area of the land, but proceed regularly through the blocks. Leases are to be sold at an upset price of Re. 1 an acre when there is only one applicant, and to the highest bidder when there are more than one.

The leases confer an occupancy right, hereditary and transferable. Survey fees are payable by the applicant at the rate of 4 annas an acre, as also a deposit of Rs. 16 for notices to objectors. Refunds and adjustments of fees deposited are permitted. Rights of way and water and other easements are reserved. The right of using all streams in any way navigable, and the use of a towpath not less than 25 feet wide on each side of every such stream, are also reserved to the public; while Government reserves to itself the right to all minerals in the land, together with rights of way and other reasonable facilities for working, getting at, and carrying away such minerals. No charge is made for timber on the land at the time it is leased, nor for any cut or burnt to effect clearances or used on the land; but a duty is levied on any exported for sale.

Amalnamahs for plots of land below 200 bighas are given to small settlers, guaranteeing them a formal lease for 30 years if the lands are brought under cultivation within two years. The 30 years' lease allows a rent-free term of two years, with progressive rates of rent on the cultivated area, fixed with reference to rates paid in the neighbourhood by raiyats to landholders for similar lands.

If available, an area of unreclaimed land equal to the cultivated area is included in the lease, and in addition, the lessee can bring under cultivation any quantity of land adjoining his holding which he may find *bond fide* unoccupied. The holding is liable to measurement every five years, and all cultivated land in excess of the area originally assessed can be assessed at the same rate. After 30 years renewed leases can be given for 30 years' periods, and rates of assessment can be adjusted at each renewal with reference to rates then prevailing in the neighbourhood. The tenure is heritable and transferable, provided that notice of transfer is given to the Sundarbans' Commissioner within one month, and no holding is to be divided without his permission. No charge is made for wood and timber on the grant, nor for any cut or burnt in making clearances, or used on the land; but a duty is levied on any exported for sale.

These rules did not work well, as, when the time came to grant leases, those who held amalnamahs wished to be recognised as haoladars and refused to take leases as raiyats. Haoladari leases are therefore now granted.

Saugor Island.

217. A separate set of rules for the grant of waste lands in Saugor Island was published by Government Notification No. 1377L.R., dated 29th March 1897. The waste lands to which these rules apply include all the ungranted and unoccupied land not contained within the boundaries of the grants—(1) Mud Point, (2) Ferintosh, (3) Bamankhali, (4) Trower land, (5) Shikarpur, and (6) Dhobelat or Gunga Saugor, which were granted rent-free in perpetuity on

condition that the grantees should construct protective works. The provisions generally follow the rules for large capitalists in the Sundarbans, except that a rent-free period of 15 years is allowed, and that failure to clear one-eighth of the entire grant at the end of the fifth year renders the lessee liable at the discretion of Government to forfeiture of the lease or to a penalty of 4 annas per acre on the whole area for each year in which the area rendered fit for cultivation falls short of the area required to be cleared. The assessment is fixed at the rate of 2 annas per bigha from the 16th to the 20th year and at the rate of 4 annas per bigha from the 21st to the 40th year, and, after the expiration of 40 years, resettlements are to be made for periods of 20 years. The maximum area of a grant is fixed at 10,000 bighas; leases are sold at an upset price of 8 annas an acre when there is one applicant, and to the highest bidder when there are more than one, the lessees being bound to construct protective works and to keep them in repair.

Special Account of Orissa.

Historical and Geographical Notice.

218. The Province of Orissa presents peculiar features of land tenure. Hemmed in between the mountains and the sea, the province occupies the south-eastern seaboard of Bengal, and consists of a long belt of country, bounded on the north by the district of Midnapore, on the west by the hilly regions of the semi-independent Tributary States, which separate it from Chota Nagpur and the Central Provinces, on the south-west by the Madras district of Ganjam, and on the south and east by the Bay of Bengal. Its western border is very irregular, but on the side facing the sea its configuration is quadrilateral, only broken by the projections of Palmyras and False Point, the headlands which respectively guard the estuaries formed by the Baitarani and Mahanadi rivers. For revenue purposes it is divided into three parts. The Baitarani forms the natural boundary between Balasore and Cuttack, the two northernmost divisions. Lower down flows the great river, the Mahanadi, with its network of bifurcations and its vast collection of water brought down from the plains of Central India. Some of its great arms furnish the water-supply of the Puri district, the last of the three fiscal divisions of the province.

Orissa was conquered by the Mughals about the year 1580, and from that time the long strip of cultivated land, which lies between the western mountain tracts and the seaboard marshes, and from which the conquerors derived their revenue, became known as the *Mughalbandi*. The encircling tracts, in which the Orissa chiefs maintained a semi-independence, were called the Rajwara. The Mahrattas subsequently overran the province, and Orissa, as made over to the East India Company in 1765, was confined to the territory now occupied by the Midnapore district and a part of Hooghly. The rest of the province was recovered by the English from the Mahrattas in 1803.

The Mahrattas imposed on the Raja of Khurda and all the "Khandaits," as the subordinate feudal chiefs were called, a quit-rent. This the native Government frequently had to levy at the point of the sword; and one result of the opposition raised to its payment was the complete subjection and assessment at full rates of the estates of nearly all the smaller Khandaits. These estates existed principally in the eastern Rajwara, and when the province was conquered by the British, their number was fifty. They were assessed at full rates and reduced in all respects to the condition of ordinary landholders. The rights of the Raja of Khurda and of all the principal Khandaits to hold their estates at permanent quit-rents were recognized by our settlement officers and by Government. The remainder were left in the position of semi-independent Tributary States, and a Superintendent was appointed to keep himself informed of their proceedings, levy the quit-rents due from them, and put a check upon any revival of their old turbulent and predatory habits. The engagements entered into by Government with the Khandaits of the independent States and the dependent estates were notified, and the principles upon which the *Mughalbandi* was to be settled were affirmed by Regulation XII of 1805.

With regard to the large estates incorporated in British territory, it is sufficient to say that by sections 33 to 35 of the Regulation they were permanently settled at fixed rents. The arrangement was, however, immediately upset in respect to the most important of them—Khurda, the Raja of which was dispossessed, and his lands resumed, for rebellion, he being

allowed an annual pension of Rs. 25,600. Khurda has ever since been held under direct Government management.

Banki and Angul were formerly Tributary States, but were confiscated to Government in 1839 and 1847, respectively, and have since been managed as Government estates.

Early settlements.

219. Excepting the large estates, the permanent settlement was not extended to the remainder of the province. Sections 4 to 7, Regulation XII, 1805, confirmed, with certain modifications, the terms of a proclamation which had been issued in September of the previous year by the Special Commissioners deputed to settle the province. A series of ten short temporary settlements followed the proclamation, the last of which expired in 1837. A settlement was then concluded for 30 years to end in 1867, but for two years previously the Province had suffered from the disastrous famine of the years 1865-66, and it was considered inexpedient to attempt a re-settlement until time had been allowed for recovery. Accordingly the settlement was prolonged for another 30 years. This term expired in 1897 and a fresh settlement for another term of 30 years has been recently completed, which will expire in 1927.

SECTION II.—SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENT, SYSTEM OF SURVEY, AND SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.

System of settlement.

Section 9, Regulation VII of 1822.

220. According to the earlier Regulations on the subject, it was the duty of the officer making or revising a settlement "to unite with the adjustment of the assessment, and the investigation of the extent and produce of the lands, the object of ascertaining and recording the fullest possible information in regard to landed tenures, the rights, interests, and privileges of the various classes of the agricultural community," and for this purpose his proceedings were to embrace "the formation of as accurate a record as possible of all local usages connected with landed tenures, as full as practicable a specification of all persons enjoying the possession and property of the soil, or vested with any heritable or transferable interest in the land or the rents of it, care being taken to distinguish the different modes of possession and property, and the real nature and extent of the interests held, more specially where several persons may hold interests in the same subject-matter of different kinds of degrees."

These requirements of the law were never fully carried out, being found beyond the capacity of the agency available for their performance. A remedy was provided by Regulation IX of 1833, which, *inter alia*, repealed so much of Regulation VII of 1822 as prescribed that the amount of jama to be demanded from any mahal should be calculated on an ascertainment of the quantity and value of actual produce, or on a comparison between the cost of production and value of produce. The principle was then adopted that the only safe and practical foundation for the calculation of the public revenue was the rent actually paid by the several tenants, of whatever class or description, and that when it was found impossible to obtain this information in the estate under settlement, the rent paid for land of the same quality and under similar circumstances in the adjoining estates was the best criterion. In 1837 it was directed that the assessment should be according to the value and capabilities of the land, and not according to the crops produced. These orders were, however, subsequently modified by various enactments, and the rules by which the settlement of fair rents and the assessments of land revenue are now governed are contained in the Acts relating to the rent and settlement and in Board's Survey and Settlement Manual, 1900.

Lands liable to settlement of land revenue.

221. The revenue of the grea ter part of the territories subject to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal having been fixed in perpetuity by the Regulations of the permanent settlement is not liable to alteration or resettlement. The following lands are, however, liable to assessment or re-assessment and settlement of land revenue:—

(i) waste lands, not included in a permanently-settled estate, of which the revenue has never been settled;

(ii) temporarily-settled estates or tenures, the property of Government or of private individuals (on expiration of the terms of the current settlement);
(iii) estates or tenures purchased on account of, or escheated or forfeited to, Government;
(iv) resumed revenue-free lands;
(v) islands thrown up in navigable rivers under certain conditions;
(vi) alluvial accretions;
(vii) lands acquired, but no longer required, for public purposes; and
(viii) lands annexed by conquest.

The number of such estates and the revenue demand from them stood as follows at the end of 1901-1902:—

Division.	Number of estates.	Revenue demand.
		Rs.
Burdwan	816	5,62,468
Presidency	1,053	7,52,450
Rajshahi	601	8,54,036
Dacca	1,902	10,02,932
Chittagong	446	9,35,763
Patna	938	4,96,827
Bhagalpur	285	3,76,282
Orissa	7,107	24,64,012
Chota Nagpur	105	3,18,112
Total ...	13,253	77,62,882

This amount represents about 19 per cent. of the total revenue demand in the Lower Provinces.

In practice, it has not been found possible to dispense with detailed enquiries in resettlement of estates. In alluvial estates, the rapid physical changes have prohibited resettlements on the ascertained data of previous settlements. In estates of a more stable character, the rough measurements and the rougher record of them on which previous settlements were based, the imperfect record-of-rights, the numerous changes in holdings (making identification impossible), the extensive additions to the cultivated area, the great increase in the profits of land and in its letting value during the currency of the long-term settlements (30 and 40 years), which have been in vogue in Lower Bengal, have made it often impossible to dispense with detailed measurements and settlement enquiries as the basis of the revised assessment of revenue.

It will be borne in mind that in the professional survey of Lower Bengal, which was made in most districts some forty to fifty years ago, only the boundaries of mauzas or villages were recorded. One of the objects of the survey was to assign to each estate the area which belonged to it. In many cases the boundaries of one mauza contained lands belonging to several different estates. Wherever this was found to be the case internal measurements were made of the lands of the mauza, and each plot of land appertaining to a different estate was separately demarcated and mapped, the area being assigned on the registers to the respective estates. But the professional survey of the province did not involve a cadastral survey. For the purposes of resettlement such surveys went no further than to identify the lands belonging to the estate under settlement. The field-to-field measurements for settlement purposes were, therefore, made by amins and peshkars who had no scientific knowledge. The maps, if any were made, were often mere eye-sketches, inaccurate, untrustworthy, and altogether inadequate to satisfy the requirements of later days.

All classes of Government estates at first were usually, and under present rules are invariably, brought under temporary settlement. A policy was inaugurated forty-four years ago of settling permanently and then selling all Government estates the rapid development of whose resources did not seem probable, or which it was on other grounds undesirable to retain, the object

being to get rid of a number of widely scattered small properties requiring, at the hands of the officers of Government, an amount of attention and supervision that could not be given to them with the establishment available. This principle, however, was not maintained, and it has been for many years the policy of Government not to alienate its proprietary right in estates, but to keep them under direct management provided that they fulfil the conditions laid down in the section of this report relating to Government estates. Settlement operations may be said to have taken a new departure in 1872-73, when the Government of the day took up the subject, insisted upon a careful record-of-rights being made on every occasion of settlement and re-settlement, and established special classes for land-surveying in various schools and colleges.

The following are the general rules which have been prescribed for the guidance of the Revenue Officers in making settlements:—

I.—No estates of any kind (save those described in the next following clause) are to be settled in perpetuity without the express sanction of Government in each case, unless the holders have a statutory right to such settlement.

II.—Very petty estates which, though well cultivated, pay less than one rupee land revenue per annum may be sold revenue-free for ever, being put up at an upset price of ten times the annual *jama*, or sold by special bargain to the cultivator in possession at not less than the above rate.

III.—Alluvial accretions to private estates should be settled separately for a term of years, each accretion with the estate-holder to whom it may belong.

IV.—No settlement or re-settlement should be concluded without first making a survey or revision of survey, and a complete record-of-rights of the whole estate.

V.—Ordinarily Government estates should, as existing leases or other arrangements fall in, be settled for a long term of years (*a*) with the people on the ground, tenure-holders or village headmen, or raiyats where this can be done, or (*b*) with a farmer, but this only in very exceptional cases.

VI.—Until the survey and record-of-rights necessary to a re-settlement can be completed, existing leases may be extended from year to year.

Under the system inaugurated in 1872-73, the agency at the disposal of Collectors for such surveys, and with it the character of the surveys themselves, improved. Not only so, but the results of the professional surveys gave settlement officers of late years advantages in the way of identifying the estates and mauzas, and of checking the areas brought out by their settlement surveyors, which their predecessors did not enjoy. But the generally small areas and scattered position of the estates which came under re-settlement, and the fitful character of the demand for surveyors, prevented the organization of anything like a settlement department.

The law for the *settlement of rents* is now contained in the tenth chapter of the Bengal Tenancy Act of 1885, and, for districts to which that Act does not apply, in other Acts. In cases in which a settlement of land revenue is being or is about to be made, a more summary procedure for settling rents than that previously in force has been introduced by the amending Act III (B.C.) of 1898. For all matters connected with the settlement of the land revenue, other than the adjustment of rents, Regulation VII of 1822 (amended in 1825) and Regulation IX of 1833 are still the law, except for the scheduled districts, in which there are special laws for the land revenue administration. The districts in which special laws are in force, and the procedure by which settlements are to be carried on there, are mentioned in Chapter 2, Part III, of the Survey and Settlement Manual, 1900.

Creation of the Departments of Bengal Surveys and of Director of Land Records and Agriculture.

222. In view of the extensive operations which were, or were likely to be, in progress, it was decided that economy and efficiency would be secured by placing the operations under the general supervision of an officer experienced in cadastral survey, who would at the same time be under the administrative direction of the Provincial Government and be the adviser of the local authorities. A Director of Bengal Surveys was accordingly appointed

from the 1st of April 1892, and was put in charge of all the operations where the agency of the Survey Department was employed. In view of the contraction of the survey operations this post was subsequently abolished in 1895, and the post of Superintendent of Provincial Surveys was created in its stead. In December 1884, in order to advise the Government on matters relating to agriculture and agricultural statistics, to undertake preliminary enquiries in connection with the experimental cadastral survey in the Patna Division, and to assist in collecting detailed information in regard to the creation of a local agency for the record-of-rights in Wards' and Government estates, a special officer with the title of Director of the Agricultural Department, Bengal, was appointed for two years. The experience thus gained proved the need of such an officer not only for improving and extending knowledge of agricultural facts, but also for supervising settlement operations and land revenue, and consequently the appointment under the title of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture was permanently sanctioned by the Secretary of State from the close of 1886-87. This officer supervises all important settlements, and his services are, at the Board's discretion, available for other settlements. He exercises, in respect of all settlements, the powers of a Commissioner, save in matters in which such powers are by law vested in the Commissioner himself.

Detailed instructions for the conduct of survey and settlement operations throughout Bengal are contained in the Survey and Settlement Manual of 1900. It has been found necessary, however, to draw up subsidiary sets of rules of procedure for the most important settlements to meet the very diverse conditions which prevail in the different parts of the country regarding the agency available for survey, the nature of the tenures, the extent of sub-infeudation, and the character of the people themselves. The leading principle is that the officers of the Survey and Settlement Departments should be treated, while engaged in writing the records, as a single staff working with the common object of producing a correct record of the actual facts. The great advantage of combining the two establishments for the purpose of making the record is that the revenue officers employed on settlement work proper are constantly checking and supervising the initial record-writing, *i.e.*, writing of the khasra (field index) and khatian (tenant-roll) drawn up by the survey officers, and the double test which is thus applied at all stages of the work contributes to the production of a correct record at the lowest possible cost compatible with the requisite accuracy. In Porahat and the Kolhan in Singhbhum, in the Sonthal Parganas, and in part of Gaya the traverse survey only has been done by the professional party; the cadastral survey and record-writing having been entirely carried out by the officers of the Settlement Department.

223. A general option has been allowed to all Collectors, in the case of any estate to the settlement of which no private individual is entitled by law, or the settlement of which may have been declined by a person entitled to it, to take the property into direct management when they consider such a course desirable for the interest of Government or the tenantry. It was formerly the custom to let estates of this kind in farm, but in 1875 the practice was condemned as injurious to the interests of the property and the tenantry, and revenue officers were enjoined to take such estates under their direct charge. A system of management by means of village headmen, who were entrusted with the collection of the rents, was introduced into some estates in the Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions, but it did not prove a success financially, and was abandoned. It is now the wish of Government that as many Government estates as possible should be retained under direct management, so that the officers of Government may be thereby enabled to gain a practical knowledge of the progress of agriculture, of the extent to which the productive powers of the land have been developed, and of the increased money value of the produce. By the introduction of a more liberal and enlightened system of management it is hoped that the form of management of Government estates will become a model for imitation by zamindars throughout the Province. There are 2,985 estates, with an annual revenue of Rs. 42,26,561, under the direct management of the revenue officers throughout the Lower Provinces. Direct management.

The estates are of two kinds, those which are the exclusive property of Government, and those belonging to private individuals, but managed by Government, owing to recusancy of proprietors. The Dacca Division contains

the largest number of such estates and Chota Nagpur the smallest. From a revenue point of view, however, the Chittagong Division, with a demand of nearly eight and a-half lakhs, is the most important, next coming the Rajshahi Division with a revenue demand of over six lakhs.

The modes of management are—

(1) by officers of Government, such as Deputy or Sub-Deputy Collectors, kanungos, and nazirs, as part of their ordinary work, without extra remuneration;

(2) by special managers, with the assistance of suitable collecting establishments;

(3) by ordinary tahsildari establishments, working under the Collector, Deputy Collector, or Sub-Deputy Collector, as the case may be;

(4) by special tahsildari establishments, under the direct supervision of the Collector.

Of these, the system adopted in Chittagong, corresponding to the tahsildari system of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, is the most deserving of notice. The chief features of the scheme, which was devised after much consideration and discussion by Government and the Board, and which eventually received the approval of the Secretary of State, are as follows:—The *noabad* taluks, numbering about 35,000, and jots, which are scattered all over the district, are parcelled out into five circles. The division is adopted with reference to geographical limits and facility of communication by land and water. The circles are, therefore, necessarily of unequal proportions. Each circle is in the charge of a khas tahsildar who is either a Deputy or Sub-Deputy Collector. At present they are employed in the collection of rent, disposal of certificate and *noabad* taluk land registration cases, and general management work. Their services can also be utilized for general administrative work in this district. Management under a system of this kind results not merely in strengthening the hold of Government over the district, but also in effecting a large saving of expenditure, since no outsider would consent to manage these estates for what it now costs Government.

Grant for the management and improvement of Government estates.

224. An annual allotment of 12 per cent. of the collections of Government estates is made for expenditure on—

(i) the management of estates of which the rents belong temporarily or permanently to Government;

(ii) agricultural, sanitary, and miscellaneous improvements in such estates.

This allotment is, under existing orders, appropriated as follows:—

One per cent. is granted by Government to the Director of Public Instruction for purposes of education in or near Government estates, $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is assigned to District Boards for roads and communications, and $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is allotted to the Board of Revenue for (*a*) management proper, including contingencies, and (*b*) agricultural, sanitary and miscellaneous improvements.

The 12 per cent. deduction is leviable from the collections in the following classes of estates:—

(1) Government estates, whether held under direct management or let in farm;

(2) Private estates, whether managed direct by Government or let on farming leases.

Up to the year 1894 a separate grant, in addition to the above allotment, was made through the Public Works Department for agricultural improvements. This grant, which was given from Provincial revenues, was to be expended on agricultural works (such as irrigation or drainage works of embankments) necessary for the protection or improvement of the revenue of Government estates, and was distinguished from the 12 per cent. grant which was intended for local improvements. In 1894 it was found that there was, in practice, little difference between the two funds, and they were, accordingly, amalgamated. It was, further, ordered in 1895 that the average cost of management throughout the Province should, if possible, be reduced to 6 per cent. of the collections from Government estates, so as to leave 3 per cent. clear for sanitary and agricultural improvements. In 1896 more stringent instructions were issued and it was directed that at least 3 per cent. of the 12 per cent.

allotment, in addition to the special grant for agricultural public works, should be expended on such improvements.

Surveys and settlements.

225. Almost the whole of these Provinces has now been surveyed so as to show the boundaries of each village and estate; but till recently there has been no field measurement except in a few limited tracts. There was a demarcation department, whose business it was to define the boundaries of villages and estates and to make a compass-and-chain survey of them. The ordinary scale of the maps prepared from this survey is 16 inches to the mile. All disputes regarding boundaries used to be decided by the demarcation officers. Demarcation survey.

Where the whole of a village belongs to one estate, nothing but the outer boundary of the village has to be defined and surveyed; but, in a very large proportion of cases, there are lands of more than one estate in the village, and the lands of each estate are frequently scattered about the village and not situated in one compact block. Thus, the lands of ten estates may be in a village, and these may be contained in forty, fifty, or even double that number of separate plots. Each of these plots had to be separately defined and surveyed by the demarcation surveyor. It is the extent to which plots of land belonging to different estates are thus intermixed that renders the demarcation of a Bengal district such a lengthy operation. To take Hooghly as an example, there were in round numbers 4,000 village circuits demarcated; in about 1,000 of these the whole of the village belonged to one estate, and no interior measurements were necessary. In the remaining 3,000, no less than 80,000 plots had to be surveyed, owing to the intermixture of lands of different estates.

226. The demarcation was followed by a professional survey, with the object of making a scientific survey of the village boundaries, and a map (usually on the scale of four inches to the mile), showing the geographical and topographical features of the country. The whole of the work, both of the demarcation and the professional survey, was carried out at the expense of Government, although the Government derived no additional revenue and no direct advantage from the process. The surveyors, in making the survey of the village boundaries, were guided by the marks put up at time of demarcation at every bend and turn of the boundary. Unfortunately, there were no permanent marks round the boundaries of villages or estates in Bengal, and no provision then existed for compelling landholders to set them up and keep them in order. The consequence has been that the marks have been obliterated and the use of the survey for practical purposes has been greatly impaired. The professional or village survey.

The subjoined statement shows how far all Bengal has been surveyed up to date, when the survey of each district was commenced and completed, the scale and nature of survey, and the total area as far as it can be ascertained:—

Division or Commissionership.	Districts.	Date of survey.		Area in sq. miles.	Scale of Survey.	Character of Survey.
		From	To			
	Bengal.					
	Western Districts.					
Burdwan Division.	1. Burdwan	1855	1857	2,689	4 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey.
	2. Birbhum	1848	1852	1,752	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	3. Bankura	1854	1856	2,621	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	4. Midnapore	1872	1878	5,186	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	5. Hooghly with Howrah.	1869	1872	1,701	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Central Districts.					
Presidency Division.	6. 24-Parganas ...	1846	1852	2,112	4 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey.
	7. Calcutta Town ...	1886	1894	8	50 feet=1 inch	The survey was by holdings.
	8. Nadia	1849	1855	2,793	4 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey.
	9. Murshidabad ...	1848	1853	2,141	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	10. Jessore and Khulna ...	1855	1859	2,925	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Sundarbuns ...	Unsurveyed.				

Division or Commissionership.	Districts.	Date of survey. From	Date of survey. To	Area in sq. miles.	Scale of survey.	Character of survey.
	Bengal—*concld.*					
	Central Districts—concld.					
Rajshahi Division.	11. Rajshahi ...	1848 1857	1853 1861	2,329	4 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey.
	12. Dinajpur	1858	1859	4,177	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	13. Jalpaiguri	1864	1868	2,962	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	14. Darjeeling ...	1851 1862	1852 1867	1,164	2 inches=1 mile 4 inches=1 mile	Ditto and partly topographical.
	15. Rangpur	1855	1859	3,488	Ditto ...	Professional village survey.
	16. Bogra	1852	1856	1,452	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	17. Pabna	1853	1855	1,839	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Kuch Bihar State ...	1868	1870	1,292	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	Eastern Districts.					
Dacca Division.	18. Dacca	1857	1860	2,796	4 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey.
	19. Mymensingh ...	1850	1857	6,332	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	20. Faridpur	1858	1870	2,267	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	21. Backergunge ...	1859	1863	3,648	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Chittagong Division.	22. Tippera ...	1861	1864	2,491	4 inches=1 mile	Ditto.
	Hill Tippera (portion of).	1863	1864	2,879	1 inch=1 mile	Topographically surveyed by the Revenue Survey.
	23. Noakhali ...	1863	1865	1,641	4 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey.
	24. Chittagong ...	1835 1888	1841 1894	2,567 2,492	Ditto ... 16 inches=1 mile	Ditto. Cadastral survey.
	Chittagong Hills	1861	1865	5,419	1 inch=1 mile	Topographically surveyed by the Revenue Survey.
	Bihar.					
Patna Division.	25. Patna ...	1841	1844	2,075	4 inches=1 mile 8 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey.
	26. Gaya ...	1838	1844	4,712	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	27. Shahabad ...	1844	1846	4,366	4 inches=1 mile	Ditto.
	28. Saran ...	1843 1892	1847 1899	2,656 2,674	8 inches=1 mile 16 inches=1 mile	Ditto. Cadastral survey.
	29. Champaran ...	1843 1892	1847 1896	3,531 3,531	8 inches=1 mile 16 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey. Cadastral survey.
	30. Tirhut (Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga).	1842-43 1846 1891	1845-46 1850 1901	6,343 6,365	4 inches=1 mile 8 inches=1 mile 16 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey. Cadastral survey.
Bhagalpur Division.	31. Monghyr ...	1836 1845	1839 1847	3,922	Ditto ...	Professional village survey.
	32. Bhagalpur ...	1839 1846	1842 1850	4,226	4 inches=1 mile	Ditto.
	33. Purnea ...	1844	1848	4,994	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	34. Malda ...	1840-42 1847	1844-45 1849	1,901	Ditto ...	Ditto.
	35. Sonthal Parganas ...	Surveyed with Bhagalpur and Birbhum.		5,470	Ditto ... 1 and 2 inches=1 mile.	Ditto and topographical survey.
	In part ...	1892	(a)	5,097	Partly 8 inches, partly 32 inches, and partly 16 inches=1 mile.	Cadastral survey.
	Orissa.					
Orissa Division.	36. Cuttack	1838	1842	3,632	4 inches=1 mile	Professional village survey.
	37. Balasore ...	1889 1838	1895 1842	3,663 2,056	16 inches=1 mile 4 inches=1 mile	Cadastral survey. Professional village survey.
	38. Puri	1890 1838	1895 1841	2,075 2,472	16 inches=1 mile 4 inches=1 mile	Cadastral survey. Professional village survey.
	39. Angul (excluding the Khondmals).	1889 1886	1895 1889	2,499 916	16 inches=1 mile 16 inches=1 mile 4 inches=1 mile 2 inches=1 mile	Cadastral survey. Cadastral and topographical survey.

(a) The earlier operations covering 1,570 square miles were completed in 1893. The later operations covering 3,527 square miles were begun in 1898 and are still in progress.

Division or Commissionership.	Districts.	Date of survey. From	Date of survey. To	Area in sq. miles	Scale of survey.	Character of survey.
	Chota Nagpur. *South-West Frontier Agency.*					
Chota Nagpur Division.	40. Hazaribagh ...	1858 1868	1863 1872	7,021	4 inches = 1 mile 1 inch = 1 mile	Professional village and topographical survey.
	41. Ranchi—					
	Barkagarh, Chota Nagpur, Pattia and Salem Estates.	1877	1879	214	16 inches = 1 mile	Cadastral survey.
	42. Palamau and Pargana Toree in Ranchi.	1863	1869	4,923	1 inch = 1 mile	Professional village and topographical survey.
	Palamau Government Estate.	1893	1895	425	16 inches = 1 mile	Cadastral survey.
	43. Manbhum ...	1861	1867	4,147	4 inches = 1 mile	Professional village survey.
	44. Singhbhum ...	1859	1865	3,753	1 inch = 1 mile	Topographical survey.

The main object of the mahalwar survey of Bengal was to secure the Government revenue by determining the boundaries of estates, each of which is hypothecated for a certain amount of revenue. The mahalwar survey has practically been completed.

Professional surveys in Bengal.

227. The professional village survey of the district of Midnapore was commenced in December 1872 and finished at the close of 1878, the scale adopted being 4 inches = 1 mile.

The revision of the survey in Midnapore, consisting of the remeasurement of six entire parganas and the demarcation of 7,430 estates in 14,425 villages, was completed in 1886, the total cost of the operations amounting to Rs. 52,035.

In 1875 a cadastral survey of the lands irrigable from the Sone Canal and its distributaries was undertaken on a scale of 32 inches = 1 mile and brought to a close in 1878. A small area of irrigable lands in Cuttack was similarly surveyed.

The Dhanwar estate in Hazaribagh and the Barkagarh estate in Ranchi were cadastrally surveyed on the 16 inches = 1 mile scale in 1881-82 and 1877-79 respectively.

The survey was extended in 1879-80 to the Government estate Khurda of Puri, when great difficulty was experienced in demarcating the outer boundary, the boundary line running through dense jungle, and landmarks in many instances disappearing.

A survey party organized in 1879-80 for the purpose of relaying on the ground the boundaries of villages on the banks of the Ganges from Kushtia to Dakhin Shahbazpur, which were subject to fluvial action since the last survey, broke ground in the northern part of the Faridpur district between the Chanda river and Goalundo, and extended its operations down to Bunderkhola, 25 miles below Faridpur. Simultaneously operations were carried on along the left bank from Dowlatpur, on the Mymensingh boundary, to a point some miles below Bunderkhola. In 1880-81 a survey was also made of the Jamuna river from Goalundo to the great trigonometrical station Bangaon, a distance of 20 miles. The party was further employed in making necessary measurements for showing alterations in the boundaries of some waste land grants in Darjeeling and checking the areas thereof for the purpose of recovering excess lands which had been taken possession of by the grantees.

Surveys and settlements of new alluvial lands.

228. The surveys of Ganges alluvion and diluvion, in accordance with the provisions of Act IX of 1847, were commenced in the Patna Division about 1863, and brought to a close in the Rajshahi Division in 1871-72. The operations were afterwards continued in the Dacca Division. The object of the law was to obviate the effects of the changes constantly going on in the banks of rivers and adjacent lands. By these changes large portions of land are often washed away—sometimes suddenly, sometimes by slow degrees—from one side of a river, while an accession of land takes place on the other side.

It was thought advisable, for the security of the land revenue, that some provision should be made for allowing to a proprietor whose estate had suffered diluvion an abatement of revenue corresponding to the extent of his loss, and, on the other hand, for assessing the proprietor whose estate had gained land with an additional revenue, proportionate to the amount of his gain. The law accordingly enacts that in districts of which a revenue survey has already been made, Government may, whenever ten years may have elapsed from the date of approval of such survey, have a new survey made of lands on the banks of rivers with a view to ascertain the extent of the changes since the last survey. Having ascertained, by inspection of the new survey map, which estates have lost and which gained land, corresponding abatements from, and additions to, the revenue assessed on the estates respectively losing and gaining are to be made.

The settlements made were formerly permanent, except when the proprietors of some of them refused to take the engagement, in which case the lands were let in farm for periods of from three to ten years; but latterly, orders have been issued by Government prohibiting further permanent settlements, and temporary settlements are made.

In 1875 Babu Parbati Churn Roy, Deputy Collector, was selected to conduct the diara survey work. The duties on which he was then employed were the demarcation of the base line and the building of the base line pillars in the Faridpur and Dacca districts. During the years 1874-75, 1875-76, and 1876-77, the diara survey of the banks of the Lower Ganges from Pangsa, in the Faridpur district, downwards was done by the professional Survey Department, but as that Department failed to re-lay on the alluvial land the boundary lines of mauzas as shewn in the old maps, their work was practically valueless to the Revenue Department. This was represented to Government, and a scheme submitted by the Deputy Collector for doing both survey and settlement work through a non-professional party was tentatively sanctioned; and in 1877-78 he was entrusted with the carrying out of that scheme.

In the course of the six years, 1877-78 to 1882-83, the banks of the chief rivers of Eastern Bengal, namely, the Ganges and Meghna, with their principal branches down to the Bay of Bengal, the Dhaleshwari, the Brahmaputra, and the southern portion of the Jamuna, were surveyed. The total area of the tracts of the country thus surveyed in Dacca, Faridpur, Backergunge, Tippera, Noakhali, and Mymensingh, was 5,682·74 square miles at a total expenditure of Rs. 1,59,430. The cost per square mile of country surveyed was therefore Rs. 28-6-10. This survey was made in the same scientific manner as the survey conducted by the Revenue Survey Department, and the accuracy of the work was tested by connections made with 18 Tower stations of the Great Trigonometrical Survey.

The total area of the land added to estates since the survey of the districts, ascertained by a comparison of the new maps with those of the previous survey, was nearly 479 square miles. Out of this area, 597 estates, measuring 237 square miles, were assessed and settled under the provisions of section 6, Act IX of 1847, yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 1,18,905, including malikana. In 113 cases, 57 square miles, with a rental of Rs. 45,084, were left unassessed under orders passed in appeal by the Commissioner or the Board; 184 square miles were left unassessed as being (1) less than 10 acres, (2) accretions to temporarily-settled estates which were not liable to assessment until the settlements of the estates expired, (3) washed away between survey and settlement, and (4) included in estates sold or permanently settled by Government on a revised assessment since the first survey of the districts, and therefore not liable to reassessment.

A survey of a narrow strip of land on both sides of the Hooghly river, from the northern boundary of the 24-Parganas to the mouth of the river, was made in 1881-82.

A revenue survey under Act V (B.C.) of 1875, of the estates bordering on the Ganges and Gogra, in Shahabad and Saran, so far as those rivers form the boundary between Bengal and North-Western Provinces, was carried out in 1881-82 and 1882-83.

Ghatwali survey of Manbhum.

229. In 1877-78 the inefficiency of the village police in Manbhum called attention to the system under which it was organized and remunerated, with the

result that it was determined to have a survey and record-of-rights of all the ghatwali lands and of the rights of the zamindar and minor ghatwals, respectively, so that disputes might be at an end and proper service demanded in return for the holdings allowed. The work was commenced on the 1st of April 1880 and lasted for three years, ending in a compromise, the number of tenures surveyed being 591, covering an area of 408 square miles. In many instances the ghatwali compromise of 1884 has been repudiated by the taraf sardars as well as the village sardars. Two civil suits were carried up to the High Court, but in neither of them was Government made a party. In only one of the four big tarafs in pargana Barabhum has the taraf sardar taken settlement of the mal lands in accordance with the terms of the ghatwali compromise.

Ghatwali survey of Bankura.

230. At the end of 1884 it was found that the Bankura ghatwali survey had cost an enormous sum of money and produced nothing but a long list of civil suits, in all of which Government was bound to fail. Mr. Risley, C.S., was ordered to compromise the suits and bring the survey to a close as quickly as possible, both of which objects he effected. The total area demarcated was 155,603 acres. Two thousand one hundred and eighty-eight boundary disputes were settled by compromise, the total cost of the proceedings amounting to Rs. 63,380. The survey was completed in 1886-87, and on its basis an amicable settlement of the ghatwali lands was undertaken in November 1894, and the proceedings are approaching completion. In all cases in which settlement has been effected, the ghatwals concerned have been released from police duties. There were three classes of ghatwali tenures in the district, viz., (*i*) sarkari panchaki, that is, those in which the panchak, or quit-rent, was realised by Government direct from the sardar ghatwals; (*ii*) be-panchaki, or those in which no rent was realised; and (*iii*) zamindari panchaki, or those in which the quit-rents were amalgamated with the land revenue of the parent estates and realised through the zamindars.

The assessments have been made according to prevailing rates as regards lands in the direct occupation of the ghatwals, but as regards lands held by them through their tenants, 75 per cent. of the rent realised by them from their tenants has been accepted as the assessment. Of the total assessment, a concession of 25 per cent. has been allowed to the ghatwals in consideration of the fact that they have been enjoying the lands from generation to generation on payment of a small quit-rent. The remaining 75 per cent. of the assessment is being divided equally between Government and the zamindars, the Government demand being fixed in perpetuity. The net yearly gain to Government by the proceedings is estimated at Rs. 32,000.

Ghatwali survey of Singhbhum.

The survey and demarcation of ghatwali tenures in pargana Dhalbhum, in Singhbhum, were commenced in June 1883 and finished in 1884-85, 257 tenures having been demarcated.

The survey of the town of Calcutta.

A survey of the town of Calcutta has been completed in the interests of both Government and the Municipality. The existing survey law not being considered suited to the survey of the town of Calcutta, a special Act [Act I (B.C.) of 1887] was passed by the Bengal Council. The survey began in November 1886, and was finished by 31st August 1894. Non-attendance of proprietors of holdings was a fertile source of delay. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 2,38,063, of which Rs. 58,650 were met by the Corporation of Calcutta and the balance by the Government.

Orissa.

231. The settlement of the temporarily-settled portion of Orissa has been alluded to in Section I above. The settlement of 1837-45 was based upon a careful field measurement, and upon an investigation into the individual rights of each landholder and under-tenant. It was a work of great labour, and occupied nearly eight years. It cost upwards of 20 lakhs, but yielded an increase to the revenue of only Rs. 34,980. The system was to settle the revenue payable by each of the old raiyats and then to grant settlement to a superior landholder, who collected the revenue from them.

Proceedings in connection with the recent resettlement, which took effect from 1897, were begun in 1889-90 under the old Regulations. It was, however, found desirable to extend to the Province certain sections of the Bengal Tenancy Act; and under these sections and under the rules made under the Act the rents of tenants were settled and their status determined. The

work extended over a period of 10 years, 1889—1899, and over an area of 5,000 square miles. Rents were settled for a million and-a-half of tenants and Government revenue was fixed for nearly six and-a-half thousand estates.

The area of the Province is over 24,000 square miles, of which about 17,000 square miles represent the Tributary States, the district of Angul and the Government estate of Khurda in Puri, and 7,000 square miles the alluvial plains lying between the hills and the sea-board. The survey and settlement operations covered an area of 5,897 square miles, representing the plains portion of the Province; the permanently-settled estates and the area occupied by the Chilka Lake being excluded. Of this area, 66 per cent. was found cultivated, 9 per cent. culturable, but not cultivated, and 25 per cent. unculturable. Of the uncultivated area, 177 square miles, or 3 per cent. of the total area, have been reserved as grazing and cremation grounds.

Changes during the currency of the Settlement of 1837.

232. During the 60 years of the currency of the settlement of 1837 the Province had developed in every direction. The population increased by over 80 per cent., cultivation was extended by 30 per cent., and communications were largely improved; while the prices of staple food-crops were trebled, largely enhanced profits being thereby secured to cultivators. This development was naturally accompanied by an increase in the rents of the pahi (non-resident) tenants, whose rents had not been fixed for the term of the settlement. On the other hand there was a remarkable decrease (42 per cent.) in the area of the thani (resident) tenancies, which, embracing the best lands of the villages and carrying many important privileges, such as heretability, fixity of rent for the term of settlement, &c., were assessed at much higher rates than the holdings of the pahi tenant. This decline was attributed chiefly to the famine of the year 1865-66. Among other changes which took place during the course of the last settlement was the multiplication of estates and of landlords, the number of estates rising from 3,571 to 6,377 and that of landlords from 8,000 to 42,400, with a corresponding increase of lands in the direct possession of the landlords.

Settlement of rents and status

233. In the resettlement proceedings rents were settled for all the tenants, including those who had been holding at privileged rents for the term of the expired settlement. The most important classes of tenants were the thani and the pahi raiyats. The existing rents of the latter were, as a rule, left unaltered, whilst the rents of the former were, if the thani rate was less than the village rate, which was calculated on the basis of pahi rents, not ordinarily enhanced by more than half the difference between the two rates. The general results of the settlement of rents were as follows:—

District.	Number of holdings.	Area.	Existing Assets.	Settled Assets.	Percentage of enhancement.	Incident of settled assets per acre.
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs. A. P.
Cuttack	650,600	822,500	18,47,400	20,72,900	12	2 8 3
Balasore	370,290	692,200	9,88,800	11,51,400	16	1 10 7
Puri	204,400	373,300	5,73,700	6,43,300	12	1 11 7
Total ...	1,225,290	1,888,000	34,09,900	38,67,600	13	2 1 0

About 54 per cent. of the rents were retained unaltered, 13 per cent. were increased on the ground of excess area, 24 per cent. were enhanced on other grounds, while 3 per cent. were reduced for loss of area and 6 per cent. were tenancies newly assessed. The name pahi tenant has disappeared from the settlement records. As a matter of fact, this class of tenant has ceased to be non-resident. He has settled down on his cultivation and, under the operation of the Bengal Tenancy Act, has become an occupancy raiyat with all the rights and privileges which the Act has given. The status of all tenants has been classified in the settlement records according to the Act, and it is believed that there is no part of Bengal in which, under the joint operation of the law and record, the protection of the tenant is more complete than it is now in Orissa. The enhancement of 13 per cent. shown in the table above was mainly due to increase obtained on the rentals of the class of tenants locally known as

Nisfi bazyaftidars. These people were given holdings for the term of the previous settlement at what were supposed to be half rates. They turned out to have been really pepper-corn rents, and the rents fixed at the resettlement were not more than one rupee an acre, which is less than half the market value of the land.

234. The Secretary of State in his Despatch No. 20 Rev., dated the 3rd February 1898, approved the proposal that from 50 to 55 per cent. of the assets should be taken as revenue, and at the same time directed that the limit of 55 per cent. should be very rarely exceeded. The actual percentage of the assets taken was 54. Nearly 6,400 estates situated in 11,000 villages were assessed to revenue, and the proprietors of all but five estates accepted the new revenue. The results of the resettlement of revenue are exhibited in the following table:— **Assessment of Revenue.**

District.	Existing assets.	Existing revenue.		Settled assets.	Settled revenue.	
		Percentage of existing assets.	Amount.		Percentage.	Amount.
	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
Cuttack	18,47,400	38	7,14,100	20,72,900	53	10,99,300
Balasore	9,88,800	38	3,77,290	11,51,400	55	6,29,078
Puri	5,73,700	51	2,92,800	6,43,300	58	3,76,700
Total ...	34,09,900	41	13,84,190	38,67,600	54	21,05,078

The percentage of increase of revenue amounted to 54 in Cuttack, 67 in Balasore and 28 in Puri, or 52 for the three districts.

The incidence of the new revenue per acre is compared with that of the revenue at the last settlement in the table below:—

District.	Incidence per acre.	
	Last revenue.	New revenue.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Cuttack ...	1 2 5	1 5 5
Balasore ...	0 12 3	0 14 6
Puri	0 15 6	1 0 2
Total ...	0 15 7	1 1 10

At the last settlement the zamindars received an income of Rs. 7,54,010, which they increased during its currency to Rs. 20,25,710. By the resettlement operations this income was reduced to Rs. 17,62,584, or by 13 per cent., only. While the revenue was increased by 52 per cent., the zamindars retained an increase in their income of 133 per cent. The reduction in the incomes of the proprietary tenure-holders was necessarily greater, but the hardship was, in almost all cases, mitigated by a system of progressive enhancements by which the payment of full rates was postponed till the eleventh year.

The total expenditure in the settlement operations in the temporarily-settled estates amounted to Rs. 30,60,100, which gives rates per square mile of Rs. 766 in Cuttack, Rs. 475 in Balasore, and Rs. 618 in Puri, or Rs. 637 for the three districts. **Cost.**

235. The Government estate of Khurda comprises nearly half the district of Puri. Until 1837 it was settled mahalwari on rough estimates, the persons admitted to engagement being the sarbarahkars. In 1836 a regular raiyatwari settlement, which was confirmed with effect from 1837, was made after measurement and ascertainment of rates for different classes of soil. Each **Khurda.**

raiyat received a lease, and the sarbarahkars, with whom the settlement was made, were allowed a commission of about 20 per cent. on the collections, partly in cash and partly in land. They usually entered into a joint engagement for a tract of land. The settlement was for 20 years, but was renewed for a further like period after measurement of new cultivation. Under these settlements the value of land in Khurda greatly increased. Preparations for a revision of settlement began in 1875. This settlement met with much opposition from the raiyats, and matters were for some time at a dead-lock pending the disposal by Government of petitions presented by the raiyats. The Government ultimately reduced the revenue demand from a quarter to one-fifth of the gross produce, and limited the period of settlement to 15 years, terminating in 1897.

A further settlement for a period of 15 years, terminating in 1912, was made with effect from 1897. The sarbarahkars still collect the revenue, and are allowed a deduction to cover their risk and expenses. The raiyats' holdings are generally small, and their rent is fixed for the term of settlement. The area dealt with in the recent proceedings covered 6,48,154 acres, including 82,798 acres, the property of private individuals, and mostly held revenue-free. An area of 565,356 acres contained in 1,377 villages is held under direct management. Out of this 253,043 acres were found cultivated, 149,387 acres culturable waste, 90,380 acres unculturable waste, and 72,546 acres reserved forest. New maps were not made, but those of the last settlement were revised and new cultivation plotted on them. The revenue, which had been fixed at Rs. 2,68,212 at the preceding settlement and had risen to Rs. 2,84,556 during its currency, was further raised to Rs. 3,46,427, or by Rs. 61,871. The greater portion of this increase was obtained by means of a general enhancement of rents by 3 annas in the rupee on the ground of the rise in the prices of staple food-crops since the last settlement. The general incidence of rents per acre amounted to Re. 1-10-6 only, against an incidence of Re. 1-11-7 for the rest of the Puri district, and the enhancements were almost universally accepted. The cost of the survey and settlement operations was Rs. 1,90,000, or 5 annas 4 pie, per acre.

Angul.

236. Angul was formerly a Tributary State, the Chief of which rebelled and was deposed by the British Government in 1847, when the State was confiscated. In 1855 a settlement of rents was made with the raiyats, the village headmen (sarbarahkars) engaging for the payment of the Government revenue and being allowed to appropriate the profits arising from extension of cultivation during the period of the settlement. The resettlement of this estate was begun in 1887-88 under the Regulations and Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879 and completed in 1891-92. The total area is 881 square miles. No enhancement was made in the rates of rent. The area assessed was 140,992 acres with a gross rental of Rs. 99,933, against 55,471 acres with a rental of Rs. 45,936 at the previous settlement. With a view to minimize the strain which might arise from the increase in the rental, the settlement was made on the progressive system and for a period of 15 years with effect from 1892. The collections of rent continue to be made through the sarbarahkars.

Banki.

237. Banki was formerly a Tributary State, the property of the Raja of Banki, who was dethroned and whose territory was confiscated by the Government in 1839 for misconduct. From then to 1882 the estate was under the management of the Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals, but in that year it was annexed to the Cuttack district. In 1844 a settlement was made for ten years, on the expiry of which a further settlement for 14 years was effected, but this was extended to 1888 in consequence of the Orissa famine of 1866. The survey and settlement now in force was begun in 1888 and completed in 1891 under Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879.

The total area of the estate is 7 square miles, and the operations cost a little more than eight annas an acre. The net revenue was raised from Rs. 21,421 to Rs. 28,820, the increase (Rs. 7,399) being mainly due to the increase which had taken place in the cultivated area.

The sarbarahkars of Banki hold the same position as those of Khurda, *i.e.*, they are farmers and public accountants, and are responsible for the total demand due to Government whether they collect it from the raiyats or not. They have no rights beyond those conferred on them by their engagements, and are liable

to dismissal by the Collector for misconduct. In return they receive a commission varying from 10 to 20 per cent. of the demand, and have been allowed to take the profits of new cultivation for the term of the present settlement which will expire in 1905. An additional remuneration of 5 per cent. on collections may be granted every year to each sarbarahkar who is found to have kept his records in proper order and up to date.

238. The operations in Chittagong have been on a scale of importance sufficient to warrant detailed notice. The cultivated lands of the Chittagong district were first measured in 1764. The assessments upon the area thus ascertained were declared permanent by Regulation I of 1793. In 1797 it was discovered that the owners of a large estate had attempted, by a forged deed, to usurp possession of all lands excluded from the original measurement. The upshot of the long correspondence and litigation which followed, extending over no less than 40 years, was a regular temporary settlement of all the cultivated lands of Chittagong not already permanently settled. **Chittagong.**

The first step was an exact definition of all the lands to which the zamindars were entitled by virtue of the measurement of 1764 and the terms of the permanent settlement; as also of all revenue-free tenures, whether valid or invalid. The remainder was considered as noabad land. The expression noabad properly means newly cultivated land. In Chittagong it means all land not measured in the original measurement of 1764, or, in other words, all land which was lying waste and in nobody's possession at the time of the measurement. This land is the property of Government. In the settlement of 1848, concluded by Sir Henry Ricketts, every noabad holding was made into a separate tenure or taluk and assessed without reference to any permanently-settled land which might be held along with it. The maximum rate of assessment was Rs. 2-4-6 an acre. This rate was reduced wherever circumstances made a lighter assessment necessary. The average rate on the 460,000 acres assessed (cultivation and waste together) was Re. 1-11 per acre, giving a total revenue of Rs. 2,00,826. At the time of settlement the Government demand was estimated to be equivalent to 19 per cent. on the value of gross produce.

At the same time lakhiraj or revenue-free tenures were investigated, and lands held on invalid tenures were resumed. Their assessment amounted to only Rs. 75,635. Certain other lakhiraj lands had been compounded for at Re. 1-1-9 per acre, subsequently reduced to Re. 0-13-9 per acre, and these yielded Rs. 13,708. The area of all lakhiraj lands, resumed and revenue-free, including waste, was 111,223 acres.

Adding together the assessments imposed on noabad and lakhiraj lands, the total increase to the revenue of the district effected by the settlement of Sir Henry Ricketts would appear to have been Rs. 2,90,169. No less than 89,389 separate settlements were made, 79,586 of which related to new mahals, lakhiraj or noabad, mostly of minute size, and intermingled with each other and with permanently-settled lands in the most complicated manner.

On the introduction of the settlement, leases were given to "circle farmers," who were to receive a commission on the revenue collected by them from the petty estates of their circles; but this, on the expiry of the terms, was replaced by a system of khas management.

The noabad holdings, in which the proportion of jungle was very small or nil, were settled for 50 years; while those in which the proportion of jungle was considerable were settled for 25 years only. On the expiry of this term the resettlement of these taluks was undertaken in 1875. The former Government revenue of these 25-year taluks had been Rs. 43,898 and this was raised by new settlement to Rs. 1,41,801. The cost of the operations was 3¼ lakhs of rupees, and the proceedings occupied seven years in completion. The term of resettlement of these 25-year taluks was fixed so as to terminate in 1898, that being the year in which the settlement of the 50-year noabad taluks expired.

The previous settlement of the lands in Old Thana Ramu having expired, a survey and record-of-rights under the Bengal Tenancy Act was begun in 1888. At first merely Government lands were dealt with, but subsequently all the lands within the thana were included within the scheme. During the assessment in this area the status of a noabad talukdar was determined to be that of a tenure-holder.

With a view to provide for the re-adjustment of the Government revenue on the expiry of the existing settlements, and also to remove the uncertainty regarding boundaries which existed in private estates, notifications under section 101 (1) of the Bengal Tenancy Act dealing with the rest of the district of Chittagong, thana by thana, with the exception of the permanently-settled lands in the island of Moiscal, were issued on various dates beginning from 1889. The proceedings thereby instituted were completed throughout the district in 1898, the cost incurred being Rs. 16,16,204. The total area of the district is 2,492 square miles, of which 2,003 square miles were surveyed, the remainder consisting of forests, waste land lots and one large permanently-settled estate. The revenue of the temporarily-settled portion of the district, not including the estate Noabad Taraf Joynarain Ghosal, was increased from Rs. 3,85,210 to Rs. 6,00,537. Of the gross increase of revenue amounting to Rs. 2,16,793 (not deducting decreases) Rs. 1,50,019 were obtained from talukdars, Rs. 3,405 from farmers and Rs. 63,369 from raiyats paying rent direct to Government. The following statement exhibits the increase in rent-rates per acre produced by the settlement:—

	Former rate.			New rate.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Talukdars (tenure-holders)	2	0	0	2	13	0
Ijaradars (farmers)	1	12	0	2	9	0
Under-tenure-holders	3	4	0	3	9	0
Settled raiyats	4	14	0	5	0	0
Occupancy raiyats	2	15	0	3	2	0
Non-occupancy raiyats	2	11	0	2	12	0
Under-raiyats	5	8	0	5	13	0

The settlement was confirmed by the Government of India for a period of 30 years.

The noabad talukdars were the most important class of tenants found upon the Government estates. They are tenure-holders, who hold directly under the Government as landlord for terms of years. At the expiry of such term, the talukdar is entitled to resettlement of such portion of his taluk as is cultivated, and at such rent as Government may fix. The total number of taluks settled during the recent operations was 36,666. Of these, 32,601 taluks had been settled in or about 1848 for terms of 50 years, 1,873 had been settled at the same time for shorter terms and resettled in 1882, while 192 were new taluks which were created during the recent settlement. The method followed in settling the rents of these taluks was to ascertain the rental of their raiyats, and, after adding to this sum the annual rent valuation of any lands in the direct occupation of the talukdar, to fix the new rent at such percentage of these assets as seemed equitable. In the case of 32,601 taluks first mentioned, the assets were fixed at Rs. 4,86,031, and the rents of the talukdars were settled at Rs. 2,86,353. The balance of Rs. 1,99,658, or 41 per cent. of the assets, represents the profits left to the talukdars. In numerous instances, however, a portion of these profits was intercepted by under-tenure-holders, who occupied the position of middlemen between the talukdar and the actual cultivators. The rents of all these under-tenure-holders were settled, as in the case of the talukdars, at a percentage of the assets of the under-tenure, calculated as above described. If then a talukdar had sublet his entire taluk to an under-tenure-holder, who in his turn had sublet to raiyats for an aggregate rental of Rs. 100, the under-tenure-holder's right might be settled at Rs. 85 and the talukdar's at Rs. 60. In that case the actual profit which would reach the talukdar would be Rs. 25.

As the result of the settlement in the case of these 32,601 talukdars, the talukdars actually receive Rs. 4,44,230; the balance of Rs. 41,801 being absorbed by under-tenure-holders.

The rents of farmers were paid on the same principles. The rents of raiyats were but little enhanced, though additional rents were imposed on increased areas.

In the case of large enhancements, liberal terms were allowed, the rents being gradually enhanced.

The result of the settlement was to enhance the rents of talukdars by 65 per cent., of farmers by 10 per cent., of under-tenure-holders by 33 per cent., of settled raiyats by 17 per cent., of occupancy raiyats by 7 per cent., and of under-raiyats by 10 per cent.

Western Duars.

239. The Western Duars of Jalpaiguri were obtained by conquest in 1864, and the first settlement of them was made for seven years in 1872 at a cost of Rs. 42,822, resulting in a net increase of revenue of Rs. 33,196 on a total area, including forests, etc., of about 1,636 square miles. In the course of an enquiry in 1874, during the settlement of South Maynaguri, it was found that the maps were inaccurate, the records untrustworthy, and that nothing but a revision of the whole settlement would suffice. A re-survey and settlement was therefore ordered at the close of 1875, and carried out at a cost of Rs. 1,16,520. The total area of the Duars was found to be 1,913 square miles, and the total rental was then fixed at Rs. 1,51,862. This sum was, however, subsequently reduced by Rs. 17,800, owing to certain errors in assessment. In 1885 it was decided that at the next settlement a more detailed examination of all the facts relating to each holding should be made.

The last settlement having expired in 1890, a fresh settlement was concluded under the provisions of the Bhutan-Duars Act, XVI of 1869. Work was commenced in 1888 and completed in 1895. The tract measures 1,210 square miles, exclusive of tea lands and forest lands, which were not dealt with at this settlement. Out of this area, 421 square miles were surveyed on the scale of 2 inches=1 mile, and the remaining 789 square miles were cadastrally surveyed on the 16-inch scale. The tract comprises 9,971 jotes, or blocks of land, held by tenants under the Government, 17 blocks occupied as markets, one revenue-free block, and 1,079 waste land blocks which were not assessed. The assessment of the 9,971 jotes brought an increase of Rs. 1,40,902 over the last assessment, which amounted to Rs. 2,33,999. A miscellaneous revenue is also derived from fluctuating sources, which amounted in 1893-94 to Rs. 39,556. The total cropped area was found to be 206,838 acres, on 80 per cent. of which rice is grown. The term of the new settlement has been fixed at 15 years from 1893-94. It cost Rs. 5,07,325, which gives an acreage charge of 11 annas 11 pies.

Palamau Government Estate.

240. Another important Government estate surveyed and settled during the last nine years is Palamau. It lies in pargana Palamau, part of the district of the same name. It was obtained in 1773 by conquest from its rulers, who belonged to the aboriginal inhabitants of the district. After several successive settlements made with the descendants of the old Rajas, the estate was purchased by Government in 1812 at an auction sale for arrears of revenue. In 1816 it was granted to the Raja of Deo, in the district of Gaya, as a reward for loyal services rendered, but was resumed in 1818 in consequence of oppression by the Raj agents. The native rulers had alienated a large part of the pargana as jagirs and other tenures granted at quit-rents, subject to a right of re-entry in default of male heirs. Government, on acquiring the rights of the old Rajas, did not resume these tenures. After a searching enquiry, these jagirs were in 1893-94 recognized as permanent, heritable and transferable estates, and the right of Government to resume them on failure of male heirs was abandoned. The remainder of the estate is known as khalsa and has been settled raiyatwari from time to time, with tenure-holders who collect the rents from the raiyats.

Survey and settlement operations commenced in 1893, and were completed in 1896. The estate comprises 399 villages with a total area of 425 square miles, of which 294 square miles were cadastrally surveyed. The cultivated area is 56,279 acres, of which 10,428 acres are twice-cropped. Rice occupies 24¼ per cent. of the cropped area. By the settlement the rental was increased from Rs. 57,693 to Rs. 74,433, or by 29 per cent., mainly on the ground of extension of cultivation. The average rates of rent of the different classes of tenants are as follows:—

	Rs. A. P.	
Settled raiyats	1 2 3	per acre.
Occupancy raiyats	1 5 6	„
Non-occupancy raiyats	0 13 6	„

The term of the settlement was fixed at 15 years, commencing from September 1896. The total expenditure was Rs. 1,19,552, which gives an acreage charge of 10 annas 2 pies on the area cadastrally surveyed.

Jaipur Government Estates.

241. The Jaipur estates in Bogra were surveyed and settled in 1893—1898. The aggregate area of the estates is 44 square miles, and is comprised in 153 villages. The cultivated area is 21,307 acres, of which 7,869 are twice cropped. Nearly 60 per cent. of the cropped area is occupied by rice. The rental was increased from Rs. 39,872 to Rs. 51,068, or by 28 per cent., on the grounds of extension of cultivation and rise in the prices of agricultural staples. The average rate of rent is Rs. 2-7-6 per acre. The settlement has been concluded for a term of 20 years. The total expenditure was Rs. 46,124, or at the rate of Re. 1-5-4 per acre.

Darjeeling Terai.

242. The survey and settlement of the Darjeeling Terai were carried out in 1894—1898. The area, exclusive of the forest lands, is 230 square miles, and comprises 834 blocks of land held by tenants on periodical leases, and 80 grants of waste lands for the cultivation of tea. The total cultivated area is 68,658 acres, of which 54,241 acres are twice cropped. Rice is the principal crop, covering an area of 46,160 acres. The rental was increased from Rs. 93,198 to Rs. 1,13,222, or by 21·48 per cent. The rates of rent per acre as now settled vary from 4 annas to Rs. 2. The term of the settlement is for 20 years. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 63,274, or 6 annas 10½ pies per acre.

Kolhan Government Estate.

243. The survey and settlement of the Kolhan Government estate in Singhbhum were carried out in 1895-1897. The total area is 1,955 square miles, of which 525 square miles are cultivated, 450 square miles are culturable, 217 square miles not culturable, 212 square miles protected forests, 531 square miles reserved forests, and 20 square miles revenue-free. The gross rental was increased from Rs. 64,828 to Rs. 1,77,300, or by Rs. 1,12,472, of which Rs. 88,388 are due to extension of cultivation of embanked rice lands, Rs. 17,080 to assessment of unembanked lands, Rs. 6,536 to enhancement of the rents of foreign settlers, and Rs. 465 to the assessment of homesteads in the occupation of foreigners. The all-round rate of incidence of the new rents is 8 annas, 5½ pies per acre. The rental is subject to a reduction of Rs. 49,772 on account of commission to the headmen and village accountants. The total cost of survey and settlement was Rs. 1,88,254, or at the rate of 3 annas 4¼ pies per acre.

Petty settlements.

In addition to the areas already mentioned, many petty estates forming the property of Government and lying in Shahabad, Backergunge, Faridpur, Noakhali, the Khulna Sundarbans and Gaya have been cadastrally surveyed and settled. Details respecting the principal areas are furnished in the table below:—

District.	Number of estates.	Area.	Former rental.	Newly-settled rental.	Increase.	Term of settlement.	Remarks.
		Square miles.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Years.	
Shahabad	15	19	19,962	23,098	3,136	15	
Khulna Sundarbans ...	6	18	14,308	18,475	4,167	15	
Gaya	1	102	63,445*	68,168†	4,723	15	* Exclusive of produce rent.
Backergunge... ...	9	71	2,08,630†	2,80,325	71,695	15	† Exclusive of produce rent commuted to cash.
Noakhali	12	108	68,987	95,871	26,884	15	
Faridpur	2	34	44,979	55,189	10,210	15	

Experimental survey in Muzaffarpur.

244. In accordance with the view taken by Government, that, for the adequate protection of the several interests of those connected with land in these Provinces, whether as owners, as the holders of intermediate tenures, or as cultivators, legislative measures are by themselves insufficient and should be supplemented by the preparation and preservation of a full record-of-rights founded on an accurate survey, provision was made in the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, enabling the Local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, to direct that a survey be made, and a record-of-rights prepared, in respect of any local area. Such operations were held to be specially required in North Bihar, where the condition of the cultivators had long been admitted to be unsatisfactory. It was recognized that the depressed condition of the Bihar raiyat arose not from any unfavourable conditions of soil or climate, but chiefly from the want of fixity of tenure and his

constant liability to arbitrary enhancement of rent. The district of Muzaffarpur was considered one of the least prosperous of Bihar, and one in which the relations of the people to the land were the least satisfactory. Survey operations of an experimental nature were accordingly undertaken under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act in this district in the year 1885 with the intention that they should be subsequently extended to a wider area, if found to be successful. The experimental operations were terminated in accordance with the orders of the Secretary of State for India in 1886, on the abandonment of the Bill for the Re-organization of Patwaris in Bengal, except only as regards 235 villages, of which the draft record-of-rights had been published.

The survey and settlement were carried on without any friction or serious difficulty. Some of the proprietors and landlords, especially the managers of factories, gave great assistance, and bore all the trouble, which the inauguration of a new work of survey and settlement must cause, with patience and good-will. The raiyats eagerly attended at the attestation of the records, and took great interest in having their fields and rents correctly recorded.

A detailed account of these experimental operations was given at pages 112—114 of the Bengal Administration Report for 1892-93. Proving as it did that the Province generally might be protected by an accurate survey and a record-of-rights with little trouble, and at a cost moderate in proportion to the area dealt with, it led to the undertaking, in 1891, of operations on a more extended scale in North Bihar. These are described in the following paragraphs.

North Bihar.

245. The objects and intentions of Government in carrying out the undertaking in North Bihar were explained in Resolution No. 1243L.R. of the Bengal Government, dated the 9th November 1891. In a notification dated the 17th November of the same year, a survey of the whole of the Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Saran, and Champaran districts was ordered. The traverse survey was accordingly started in November 1891 in Muzaffarpur, as it was decided that work should be resumed there in continuation of that abandoned in 1886. Subsequently traverse work was begun in the Bettiah subdivision of the Champaran district; and in 1893 the traverse party commenced work in the district of Saran. Field survey and record-writing began in October 1892. The settlement operations have been completed in Muzaffarpur, Champaran and Saran, and are expected to be completed two years hence in Darbhanga.

Muzaffarpur.

246. Muzaffarpur has an area of 3,035 square miles and contains 4,505 villages. Of the total area, 80 per cent. has been found to be cultivated, including about 46 per cent. which bears two crops a year. There are 38,122 estates held by 163,933 recorded proprietors. The following table shows how the land is held :—

Serial number.	Classification of lands.	Number of Holdings.		Area.		Average size of a holding.	Remarks.
		Total number.	Percentage of number of holdings of all classes, exclusive of waste lands and lands held for public purposes.	Total areas.	Percentage of total area under all classes, exclusive of waste lands and lands held for public purposes.		
				Acres.		Acres.	
1	Proprietors' private lands ...	41,307	4·4	67,729	4·0	1·63	
2	Held by proprietors, but not private land	45,118	4·8	195,910	11·5	4·34	
3	In cultivating possession of tenure-holders ...	9,488	1·0	63,086	3·7	6·65	
4	Held by raiyats at fixed rents or rates	14,760	1·6	36,951	2·2	2·50	
5	Held by settled or occupancy raiyats	770,018	82·2	1,270,474	74·8	1·64	
6	Held by non-occupancy raiyats, including *diara* raiyats ...	18,794	2·0	26,422	1·6	1·48	
7	Held by rent-free holders ...	36,925	4·0	37,523	2·2	1·01	
	Total ...	936,410	.....	1,898,095	.....	1·81	
8	Waste lands	34,087	.....	208,245	.....	...	
9	Lands held for public purposes	2,067	.....	15,035	.....	...	
	Total ...	36,154	.....	223,280	.....	...	
10	Held by under-raiyats ...	52,257	5·3	72,890	4·1	1·39	

It will be seen that 82·2 per cent. of the raiyats have occupancy rights. Applications for the settlement of fair rents were filed for 27,024 tenancies, but in the case of 11,342 tenancies only were the rents enhanced. The existing rents of 9,003 tenancies were settled as fair, and those of 26 tenancies were reduced. The applications for the remaining tenancies were withdrawn. Out of 11,342 cases in which rents were enhanced, 9,214 were decided in accordance with compromises between the parties, and 2,091 only were contested. The existing rent of the 20,345 tenancies for which rents were settled was Rs. 1,92,767; and this rental was increased by Rs. 16,318, of which Rs. 16,204 were due to the assessment of excess area. The average rate of rents paid by tenants in the whole district is Rs. 3-13-5 per acre. There were 34,271 objections dealt with summarily and 5,041 disputes tried as civil suits. Against the decisions in the latter 727 appeals were filed before the Special Judge, who upheld the decisions of the Settlement Department in 67 per cent. of the cases, modified them in 5 per cent. and reversed them in 28 per cent. The reversals were due, in the main, to the uncertainty that prevailed as to the jurisdiction of the Settlement Courts before the passing of the Bengal Tenancy (Amendment) Act, III (B.C.) of 1898. The actual total expenditure amounted to Rs. 11,35,780. From this should be deducted receipts in Court and process-fees and miscellaneous receipts, and this will give a net total expenditure of Rs. 10,53,312. The incidence of the cost, therefore, per square mile is Rs. 347, and per acre annas 8-8. Of the total expenditure one-fourth was defrayed by Government, and the remainder recovered from the landlords and tenants.

Champaran.

247. The area of Champaran is 3,531 square miles, of which 3,250 square miles were dealt with in the course of the survey and settlement proceedings, 250 square miles of jungle in the north-west of the district having been excluded from the operations, and 30 square miles belonging to the criminal jurisdiction of Saran having been taken up as part of that district. Of the area dealt with, 70 per cent. is cultivated and 18 per cent. culturable. Of the cultivated area 39 per cent. is twice-cropped. Only 2 per cent. of the cropped area is irrigated. Rice is grown on 54 per cent. of the cultivated area. The following table shows how the land is held:—

Serial number.	Classification of lands.	Number of holdings.		Area.		Average size of a holding.
		Total number.	Percentage of number of holdings of all classes, exclusive of waste lands and lands held for public purposes.	Total area.	Percentage of total area under all classes, exclusive of waste lands and lands held for public purposes.	
				Acres.		Acres.
1	Proprietors' private lands ...	409	·10	4,381	·30	12
2	Held by proprietors, but not private land	1,952	·40	31,331	2·00	16
3	In cultivating possession of tenure-holders	9,899	2·50	117,066	7·50	12
4	Held by raiyats at fixed rents or rates	3,214	1	26,803	2	8
5	Held by settled or occupancy raiyats	336,149	86	1,314,465	83	4
6	Held by non-occupancy raiyats, including *diara* raiyats ...	25,296	6	49,462	3·10	2
7	Held by rent-free holders ...	14,140	4	34,227	2·10	2
	Total ...	391,059	100	1,578,235	100	4
8	Waste lands	9,533	.....	492,002	.....	51
9	Lands held for public purposes	.....	.....	9,578	.....	...
	Total ...	9,533	.....	501,580	.....	...
10	Held by under-raiyats ...	29,003	7	33,027	2	1

The total number of tenancies recorded was 364,659, of which 32·4 per cent. were brought under settlement of fair rents through applications made

chiefly by the landlords. In the case of 63 per cent. of these tenancies the rent was enhanced, in 23 per cent. the existing rent was settled as the fair rent, in 13 per cent. the applications were withdrawn and in 0·24 per cent. the rent was reduced The existing rental of the holdings affected, that is, Rs. 9,33,939, was raised by Rs. 91,781, of which Rs. 90,209 were due to the assessment of excess areas. Of the total rental settled, 75 per cent. was determined by compromise between the parties. The rents of the holdings affected were raised on the whole by 9·8 per cent., but the rental of the district was raised by 3·9 per cent. only. The average rate of rent of tenants for the whole district is Rs. 1-13-9 per acre. The objections summarily decided by the Settlement staff affected 3·10 per cent. of the total number of tenancies, and the disputes which were decided as civil suits affected about 1 per cent. of the tenancies. The total cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 9,43,299, which gives an average of annas 7 and pies 2 per acre.

Saran.

248. Saran has an area of 2,674 square miles and contains 4,865 villages. Of the total area 78·6 per cent. has been found to be cultivated, including 37 per cent. which bears two crops a year. There are 12,114 estates held by 116,090 recorded proprietors. The following table shows how the land is held:—

Serial number.	Classification of lands.	Number of holdings.		Area.		
		Total number.	Percentage of number of holdings of all classes, exclusive of waste lands and lands held for public purposes.	Total area.	Percentage of total area under all classes, exclusive of waste lands and lands held for public purposes.	Average size of a holding.
				Acres.		Acres.
1	Proprietors' private lands ...	2,033	·25	9,300	·68	4·57
2	Held by proprietors, but not private land.	28,220	3·45	78,279	5·71	2·7
3	In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	16,132	1·98	50,688	3·7	3·14
4	Held by raiyats at fixed rents or rates.	2,744	·34	9,340	·68	3·40
5	Held by settled or occupancy raiyats.	690,386	84·59	1,150,267	83·91	1·6
6	Held by non-occupancy raiyats, including *diara* raiyats.	12,109	1·48	15,459	1·13	1·2
7	Held by rent-free holders ...	64,722	7·93	57,479	4·19	·89
	Total ...	816,346	100	1,372,812	100	1·68
8	Waste lands	54,233	.....	199,410	.....	3·68
9	Lands held for public purposes	.....	.....	16,896	.....	...
	Total ...	54,233	.....	216,306	.....	...
10	Held by under-raiyats ...	60,300	7·39	31,813	2·32	·53

Applications for the settlement of fair rents were filed in respect of 64,041 tenancies, but in the case of 46,704 only were the rents enhanced. The existing rents of 2,218 tenancies were settled as fair, while those of 5,273 were reduced. The applications relating to the remaining tenancies were withdrawn. The applications in respect of 9,289 tenancies were contested and of 37,027 compromised. The existing rents of 54,195 tenancies, for which rents were settled, was Rs. 7,21,311, which was increased by Rs. 73,605. The average rate of rent paid by tenants of the whole district is Rs. 4-5-4 per acre. There were 66,105 objections dealt with summarily, and 5,305 disputes tried as civil suits. Five hundred and twenty-seven appeals were instituted against decisions in the latter before the Special Judge, of which 195 had been decided, and 332 were pending at the end of June 1902. Of the number decided 103 or 52·8 per cent. were upheld, and 33, or 16·9 per cent., reversed, 58, or 29·8 per cent., dismissed or withdrawn and 1, or ·5 per cent., remanded.

The actual total expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,68,680. From this should be deducted receipts in Court and process-fees and miscellaneous receipts, giving a net expenditure of Rs. 11,14,491. The incidence of cost per square mile was Rs. 474-7-2. Of the total expenditure one-fourth was defrayed by Government, and the remainder recovered from the landlords and tenants.

Darbhanga.

249. The district of Darbhanga has an area of 3,330 square miles and contains 3,438 villages. Statistics are available for only eight thanas, as the Madhubani and Khajauli thana records have not yet been completed for final publication. In the remaining eight thanas, of the total area 80 per cent. has been found to be cultivated, including about 37 per cent., which bears two crops a year.

The following table shows how the lands are held in the eight thanas so far dealt with:—

Serial number.	Classification of lands.	Number of holdings.		Area.		Average size of a holding.
		Total number.	Percentage of number of holdings of all classes, exclusive of waste lands and lands held for public purposes.	Total area.	Percentage of total area under all classes, exclusive of waste lands and lands held for public purposes.	
				Acres.		Acres.
1	Proprietors' private lands ...	851	0·1	5,926	0·4	6·9
2	Held by proprietors, but not private land.	39,158	4·8	173,819	12·6	4·4
3	In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	8,462	1·0	44,566	3·2	5·2
4	Held by raiyats at fixed rents or rates.	4,556	0·5	9,465	0·7	2·1
5	Held by settled or occupancy raiyats.	739,204	89·8	1,123,740	80·8	1·5
6	Held by non-occupancy raiyats, including *diara* raiyats.	5,830	0·7	10,362	0·7	1·8
7	Held by rent-free holders ...	25,317	3·1	22,676	1·6	0·9
	Total ...	823,378	.....	1,390,554	.....	1·7
8	Waste-lands	51,022	.....	212,012	.....	...
9	Lands held for public purposes	.....	.....	12,444	.....	...
	Total ...	51,322	.....	224,456	.....	...
10	Held by under-raiyats ...	51,078	6·2	13,928	1·0	...

Up to the 31st March 1902 applications had been filed for the settlement of fair rents for 26,479 tenancies. These are now under disposal. The average rate of rents paid by tenants in the eight thanas is Rs. 3-11-9 per acre. There were 76,601 objections dealt with summarily in the whole district. Up to the 31st March 3,104 disputes were tried as civil suits. Against the decisions in these latter 368 appeals were filed before the Special Judge, who decided 182 cases before 31st March. He upheld the decisions of the Settlement Department in 51·7 per cent. of the cases, modified them in 2·8 per cent., reversed them in 30·8 per cent., and passed orders of remand in 14·7 per cent. The actual total expenditure up to the 31st March amounted to Rs. 14,45,856. From this should be deducted receipts in Court and process-fees and miscellaneous receipts, giving a net total expenditure of Rs. 13,03,318. The ultimate total expenditure is estimated at Rs. 16,00,000, of which Government will pay one-fourth. The remainder is being recovered from the landlords and tenants.

Other important settlements of private and permanently settled areas.

250. Of other areas surveyed and settled during the last nine years, the most important are the Chakla Roshnabad estates belonging to the Maharaja of Hill Tippera in Tippera and Noakhali, Killas Aul and Darpan in Cuttack and the estates settled by Mr. Craven in the Sonthal Parganas. The work done in each area is briefly noticed below.

Chakla Roshnabad Private Estates.

The Chakla Roshnabad estates have an area of 558 square miles, comprised in 1,510 villages. The survey and settlement was carried out under section 101 (2) (*a*) of the Bengal Tenancy Act during the years 1892 to 1900.

Of the total area about 400 square miles are cultivated and 40 square miles are culturable waste, and the rest is made up of unculturable waste and water. Rice is grown on four-fifths of the culitvated area. There are no less than 17 different classes of rent-paying tenures and temporary leases. Nearly 76 per cent. of the total area is held by settled and occupancy raiyats. The average rates of rent vary between Rs. 3-5-4 and Rs. 3-10-4 per acre. By the settlement the rental was increased from Rs. 5,84,189 to Rs. 6,75,848, or by 15·69 per cent. Of this increase Rs. 59,312 were obtained from tenants holding lands directly under the proprietor on the grounds of excess area and a rise in prices, and Rs. 32,347 from tenure-holders by raising the proportion of the assets payable by them from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. The total cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 5,28,000, and gives an acreage charge of Re. 1-8.

Killa Aul Private Estates.

Killa Aul, comprising parganas Derabisi, Uthihar and Kutubsahi, has an area of 134 square miles. Part of this area was surveyed during the Orissa settlement, and the remainder was surveyed and settled in 1900-1901. Of the total area 82 per cent. is under cultivation, of which 10 per cent. is twice-cropped. Rice is grown on 77 per cent. of the cropped area. Rents were settled for 25,387 out of 64,497 tenants, and their rental was increased from Rs. 1,00,363 to Rs. 1,07,533, or by 7·1 per cent. The increase was obtained by the assessment of invalid rent-free tenancies and of excess lands in the holdings. The present rates of rent are Rs. 2-7 and Rs. 2-11-11 per acre. The expenditure was Rs. 31,509. The cost per acre was 5 annas 10 pies per acre.

Killa Darpan Private Estates.

Killa Darpan has an area of 100 square miles and was also partly surveyed in the Orissa settlement. The work was completed in 1901. The cropped area is 33,934 acres, of which 30,056 acres are under rice. The settlement has increased the rental from Rs. 39,656 to Rs. 49,242, or by 24 per cent. The average rent-rate is Rs. 2-6 per acre. The expenditure was Rs. 43,159, or at the rate of Rs. 432 per square mile.

Zamindari Estates, Sonthal Parganas.

The area of the private estates in the Sonthal Parganas surveyed and settled by Mr. Craven was 1,570 square miles comprised in 2,583 villages. The operations were carried out under the Sonthal Parganas Settlement Regulation, III of 1872, as amended by the Sonthal Parganas Rent Regulation, II of 1886, during 1888-89 and 1893-94. The total cultivated area is 513,083 acres comprised in 103,722 holdings. The area was found to have increased since the last settlement by 188 per cent. Of the total cultivated area 49 per cent. is under rice. The rental was increased from Rs. 3,33,407 to Rs. 4,78,087, or by 44 per cent. The average rent-rate of the total cultivated area is 13 annas. The settlement will run for 15 years, or until such time as a fresh settlement is made. During this period neither the proprietors nor the village headmen may enhance the rents fixed. Only half-rates will be charged for lands that may be brought under cultivation within seven years of the commencement of the present settlement, and after that period rates not exceeding full rates may be levied. The total expenditure was Rs. 1,89,651, or at the rate of Rs. 215 per square mile.

Petty Estates.

251. Survey and settlement operations have been carried out in numerous petty estates, either on the application of the parties or at the initiation of Government, with a view to prevent serious breaches of the peace between landlords and tenants. The following table shows the important areas and particulars regarding them as ascertained at the survey and settlement proceedings:—

District.	Number of estates.	Area.	Number of villages.	Former rental.	New rental.	Increase.
		Sq. m.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Khulna	1	20	8	23,579	26,314	2,735
Rajshahi	1	59	203	68,128	86,295	18,167
Birbhum	1	36	38	39,447	43,478	4,031
24-Parganas ...	1	34	43	21,876	28,595	6,719
Backergunge ...	8	74	147	2,92,822	2,96,637	3,815
Faridpur	2	7	4	6,465	11,147	4,682
Total ...	14	230	443	4,52,317	4,92,466	40.149

Survey and Settlement Proceedings now in Progress.

Survey and settlement proceedings are, at present, in progress in the areas mentioned below :—

Estates.	Area. Square miles.	Number of villages.
North Monghyr	126	1,474
North Bhagalpur	2,390	...
Backergunge	2,551	4,482
Surjapur, in Purnea	750	736
Muksadpur, in Gaya	127	160
Deo, in Gaya	90	65
Patna Government and private estates ...	111	71
Hathwa Raj villages in Shahabad	13	15
Porahat, in Singhbhum	644	674
Munda country, Ranchi	1,846	...
Damin-i-Koh Government estate, in the Sonthal Parganas	1,117	1,911
Private estates in the Sonthal Parganas ...	810	2,050
Kalimpong, in Darjeeling	182	48

Civil Divisions of British Territory.

Commissionerships.

252. The territory subject to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is portioned off into nine large tracts, officially called Divisions, each of which is superintended by a Commissioner. Six districts of Bengal Proper west of the Bhagirathi or Hooghly constitute the Burdwan Division, and are known as Western Bengal. Central Bengal includes the Presidency Division, the district of Malda in the Bhagalpur Division and the greater part of the Rajshahi Division. Eastern Bengal comprises the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions. The Province of Bihar contains the Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions, with the exception of the district of Malda. Each of the Provinces of Orissa and Chota Nagpur constitutes a separate Division.

Districts and Subdivisions.

253. These Divisions are divided (Calcutta being excluded) into 37 Regulation and 10 non-Regulation districts. The Regulation districts comprise 77 subdivisions, besides the head-quarters Division of each district.

Regulation Districts.

254. The table below shows the Divisions, districts and outlying subdivisions of the Regulation districts as they stood on 31st March 1902 :—

Division.	District.	Subdivision.	Division.	District.	Subdivision.
Burdwan.	Burdwan ...	Katwa.	Presidency—*concld.*	Khulna	Satkhira.
		Kalna.			Bagerhat.
		Raniganj.	Rajshahi.	Rajshahi ...	Naugaon.
	Birbhum ...	Rampur Hât.			Nator.
	Bankura ...	Vishnupur.		Dinajpur ...	Thakurgaon.
	Midnapore ...	Tamluk.			Nilphamari.
		Ghatal.		Rangpur ...	Kurigaon.
		Contai.			Gaibanda.
	Hooghly ...	Serampur		Bogra ...	Nil.
		Arambagh.		Pabna ...	Sirajganj.
	Howrah ...	Ulubaria.	Dacca.	Dacca ...	Narayanganj.
Presidency.	24-Parganas	Basirhat.			Munshiganj.
		Barasat.			Manikganj.
		Diamond Harbour.		Mymensingh	Jamalpur
	Nadia ...	Meherpur.			Tangail.
		Kushtia.			Netrakona.
		Ranaghat.			Kishorganj.
		Chuadanga.		Faridpur ...	Goalundo.
	Murshidabad	Kandi.			Madaripur.
		Jangipur.		Backergunge	Pirojpur.
		Lalbagh.			Patuakhali.
	Jessore ...	Narail.			Dakhin Shahbazpur.
		Bangaon.	Chittagong.	Tippera ...	Brahmanbaria.
		Jhenidah.			Chandpur.
		Magura.		Noakhali ...	Feny.
				Chittagong...	Cox's Bazar.

Division.	District.	Subdivision.
Patna	Patna	Bihar.
		Barh.
		Dinapore.
	Gaya	Aurangabad.
		Jahanabad.
		Nawada.
	Shahabad	Sasaram.
		Buxar.
		Bhabhua.
	Saran	Gopalganj.
		Siwan.
	Champaran	Bettiah.
	Muzaffarpur	Sitamarhi.
		Hajipur.
	Darbhanga	Samastipur.
		Madhubani.
Bhagalpur	Monghyr	Begusarai.
		Jamui.
	Bhagalpur	Supaul.
		Banka.
		Madhipura.
	Purnea	Kishanganj.
		Araria.
	Malda	Nil.
Orissa	Cuttack	Jajpur.
		Kendrapara.
	Balasore	Bhadrak.
	Puri	Khurda.

255. The non-Regulation districts, as shown below, include one entire Commissionership and portions of the Rajshahi, the Bhagalpur, the Orissa and the Chittagong Divisions. They contain ten subdivisions, besides the head-quarters Division of each district:— Non-Regulation Districts.

Division.	District.	Subdivision.
Rajshahi	Jalpaiguri	Alipore.
	Darjeeling	Kurseong.
Chittagong	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Nil.
Bhagalpur	Sonthal Parganas	Rajmahal.
		Deoghur.
		Godda.
		Jamtara.
		Pakaur.
Orissa	Angul	Khondmals.
Chota Nagpur	Hazaribagh	Giridih.
	Ranchi	Nil.
	Palamau	Nil.
	Manbhum	Gobindpur.
	Singbhum	Nil.

The area and population of these tracts are given in detail in the chapter on the Census. By far the most populous division in the Province is that of Patna and the least populous is Orissa, the mean population of the nine divisions being 8,304,985 souls. The districts vary in size from 510 to 7,128 square miles, while their population varies from 124,762 to 3,915,068. The average population of a subdivision is 557,797.

256. For the purposes of revenue administration the country was divided by the Mogul Government into parganas, each pargana comprising a certain number of villages with their lands. This arrangement still forms the basis of our own revenue system; but from its want of compactness, as well as for other reasons, it has been found extremely inconvenient, and in Bengal it has fallen into such decay, that in some districts the pargana boundaries can hardly be ascertained. Detached villages belonging to the same pargana may now be found all over the district, and in some cases in other districts altogether. Practically the pargana divisions of districts have died out, except for purposes of land revenue payments, in favour of the simpler and more compact arrangements adopted for purposes of police. This arrangement had its origin in Regulation XXII of 1816, by which the Magistrates were directed to divide their districts into police jurisdictions to be named after the places at which the chief police officers were stationed. And in this way the term *thana*, which originally meant only the police-station, came to be applied to the jurisdiction subordinate to that station. The thana divisions have been for years growing into greater importance, and are now utilized to a large extent for other than police purposes. The thana is now the unit of which a subdivision is composed, as the subdivision is of the district. The total number of thanas, including Parganas. Thanas.

Outposts.

independent outposts, in Bengal is 638, and the average area of each is 231 square miles. The average population of a thana is 117,155: some of the large thanas are divided again for police purposes into outposts.

Tahsildari Divisions.

257. The tahsildari system, which obtains in other parts of India for the collection of revenue, and the tahsil division of territory is not known in these Provinces, except in the district of Chittagong, where five circles have been formed for the management of the large number of petty estates scattered all over the district. All these circles are in charge of special tahsildars, who are either Deputy or Sub-Deputy Collectors. For the collection of rent in the larger Government estates, or groups of estates, there are tahsildars (who also are either Deputy or Sub-Deputy Collectors) in the districts of Jalpaiguri, Backergunge, Noakhali, Angul and Khondmals, Puri and Palamau. A detailed account of the manner in which these estates are managed is given in the chapter "Character of Land Tenures, etc."

Villages.

258. The development of industries, which is so marked a feature of the past decade, has exercised a scarcely perceptible influence on the distribution of the population of the Province, as a whole, between towns and villages. Ten years ago, the relative proportions of the urban and rural population were 4·8 and 95·2, respectively. To-day to every five inhabitants of towns there are 95 who live in villages. The increase in the urban population is almost infinitesimal, and the result is significant of the fact that Bengal is essentially and unalterably an agricultural Province. Many even of its so-called towns are merely overgrown villages, where the bulk of the inhabitants are engaged in agriculture, and where all who are occupied in non-agricultural pursuits, other than a few local and primitive industries, are an alien and an immigrant population.

The returns of the last census show a mean number of 335 inhabitants to each "village" in Bengal. The term is, however, of an elusive character, and incapable of exact definition. The revenue survey unit, the *mauza*, is in recently-surveyed areas a convenient basis of calculation. But in some districts the boundaries of each *mauza* are not accurately known, and in all it does not necessarily correspond to the residential village. The latter, moreover, is a very indefinite term. Widely scattered hamlets, or *tolas* as in some parts they are called, are not infrequently known, to the confusion of the wayfarer seeking his destination, by a single common name, whereas in the general acceptation of the term, each would be regarded as a separate village. Where the survey *mauza* is not clearly defined, the group of hamlets included under a single name has been taken as the census unit, and the average population of a "village," therefore, is that of a collection of hamlets and not of a single *tola*, which latter may often consist of one or two homesteads with a population perhaps not numbering more than a score. While at the other end of the scale lies the village with a population of 5,000 or more, hardly to be distinguished save in name from a small town with its own self-governing institutions.

The table in the margin shows the number and population of villages and small towns in the whole of Bengal as classified for the purposes of the last census enumeration. Eastern Bengal is, as it was ten years ago, the country of small villages. It shares with Chota Nagpur and the Santhal Parganas, the reputation of possessing the smallest proportion of urban population in the Province, a proportion of 2 town dwellers to 98 villagers. South Bihar, on the contrary, where changing dynasties founded their brief capitals, is a country of small towns and large villages where the urban population is as much as 7 per cent. The same proportion exists in the Burdwan Division, where, however, it is due to the existence of flourishing modern industries in contrast to the departed glories of forgotten rulers. In the truly rural tracts the same features of village life are everywhere found. Communal institutions no longer exist as active factors in village administration. Such survivals as are traceable are wholly devoid of political significance, and the village *panchayat* as a court of primitive justice is almost completely discounted by the spirit of litigation from which even the smallest community is not free.

	Number	Population.
Villages with less than 500 inhabitants	183,123	34,091,006
„ „ from 500 to 1,000 „ ...	26,976	18,503,076
„ „ „ 1,000 to 2,000 „ ...	9,634	13,072,134
„ and towns „ 2,000 to 5,000 „ ...	2,791	7,678,920
„ „ „ 5,000 to 10,000 „ ...	212	1,416,898

Details of the last Census (1901). Tribes and Languages.

Previous Estimates of the Population.

259. At the close of the 18th century the British territories in Northern India consisted of the Provinces of Benares, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. The area of those territories included the present regulation districts and the greater part of the Division of Chota Nagpur, but it did not include Darjeeling and the Bhutan Duars; the Province of Orissa at that time extended only to the Subarnarekha River and the present Province of Orissa and the adjacent hill tracts were annexed later. The original area was approximately estimated by Mr. James Grant in 1786, in his *Analysis of the Finances of Bengal*, at 97,200 square miles.

The first published estimate of the population of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa (including only under the term Orissa what is now comprised in the Midnapore district and part of Hooghly) fixed it at about ten millions. This estimate was formed soon after the Company's accession to the Dewani, and is that adopted by Mr. Grant. It was subsequently found that this figure was too low. Sir William Jones, in 1787, basing his conclusion on materials no longer available, thought that the population of Bengal, Bihar, Orissa *and Benares*, amounted to twenty-four millions. In the first year of the present century the Bengal Government called for information from the Collectors and Judges stationed in the districts of the four Provinces; but the returns were so imperfect and, where they were made by both classes of officers, so contradictory that no general conclusion could be drawn from them. Mr. Colebrooke, in 1802, computed the population to be thirty millions. The Fifth Report of the Select Committee on the affairs of the East India Company, after consideration of these data, recorded in 1812 that "if any opinion were now to be offered on a point which has not been subjected to strict investigation, perhaps there would be no danger of exceeding the truth in adopting a medium between the calculations of Sir W. Jones and Mr. Colebrooke, and supposing the population of the four Provinces to be not less than twenty-seven millions." Buchanan Hamilton had, however, about this period made an estimate of the population of several districts, which he put very much higher than other authorities.

The semi-official estimate of Mr. Adams in 1835 assumes the population to be thirty-six millions. In 1844, when the territories under the Bengal Government were nearly the same as those now under the Lieutenant Governor, their population was estimated by Mr. Dampier, the Superintendent of Police in Bengal, at 31,200,000. In the Parliamentary Blue Book "On the Area and Population of India," published on the 27th July 1857, the total population of all India is recorded at 180,884,297, and the total population under the administration of the Government of Bengal was estimated to be 40,852,397. In the Administration Report of this Government for the year 1870-71 the population was assumed to be slightly more than forty-two millions.

Census of 1872.

260. After much discussion instructions were issued by the Government of India that arrangements should be made for a general Census of the population in the year 1871, but in Bengal the operation was not carried out until the 15th January 1872. The results of the Census and a full account of the plan on which it was carried out were given in the Administration Report for the year 1872-73. The total population was ascertained to be 64,649,406, of whom 32,332,374* were males and 32,281,770* females. Since then a Census has been taken regularly at intervals of about ten years, viz, on the 17th February 1881, the 26th February 1891 and the 1st March 1901. The present is, therefore, the fourth regular Census of the Province of Bengal.

Arrangements for Census of 1901.

261. The first step necessary in the arrangements for a Census is the preparation of a complete list of villages. This is a matter of special difficulty in Bengal owing to the absence of a village revenue agency, and to the fact that no attempt has ever been made to keep the records of the Revenue Survey up to date. In many places the old survey mauzas have changed their names and their boundaries have been lost sight of, or can only be traced out laboriously with the aid of large scale maps or by questioning the agents of the local zamindars. These enquiries have to be repeated at each succeeding

* The details according to sex for Hill Tippera are not available.

Census, owing to the extensive changes which take place on account of (1) changes in the course of the great rivers that run through this Province; (2) the temporary character of the houses in many parts, which results in a constant change in the formation of villages—hamlets growing into villages and villages sinking to the status of hamlets; (3) the habit of changing village names and (4) the constant change of village sites in Chota Nagpur and other remote tracts, where land is plentiful and fresh clearances for cultivation are made every two or three years. For these reasons the preliminary instructions were issued early in the cold weather of 1899-1900, so that the necessary local enquiries might be carried out during the touring season under the direct supervision of the District Officers. These instructions provided for the preparation of complete lists of inhabited villages, showing the mauza in which each village was situated, the number of houses in each and the names of the persons qualified to act as supervisors and enumerators.

Abstract of Census Divisions.

262. It was hoped that the village lists would have been completed by the end of the cold weather of 1899-1900; but various causes prevented this, and, as a rule, they were not ready until several months later. As the lists came in they were examined, and a rough arrangement of Census divisions was made. Each village was divided into enumerators' blocks of about 40 houses each, and villages were grouped together to form supervisors' circles of from 10 to 15 blocks. The circles were again congregated to form Superintendents' charges, each charge containing, as a rule, not more than 12,000 houses. As soon as this arrangement of Census divisions had been completed an abstract, showing the total number of houses, blocks, circles and charges in the district, was prepared and sent to the Provincial Superintendent. These abstracts were taken as the basis for the supply of schedules and other forms, all of which were printed at the Bengal Secretariat Press.

Appointment of Census Officers.

263. The Charge Superintendents were appointed at the beginning of July. Their first duty was to examine the arrangement of blocks and circles in their charges, and to suggest such changes as seemed called for with reference to local conditions; and also to bring to notice any omissions in the village lists that might come to light. They were further required to submit the names of the persons selected by them to serve as supervisors and enumerators. These latter officers were appointed about the beginning of September. Service was compulsory, but in very few cases was it found necessary to resort to coercive measures to induce the men selected to take up their appointments. Excluding Calcutta and Native States, the total number of Charge Superintendents was 1,498, of Supervisors 28,026 and of Enumerators 384,394.

House-numbering.

264. The first direct step towards the taking of the Census was the numbering of the houses. A house was defined as the residence of a commensal family, and each such house was given a separate number. When all houses had been numbered a revised abstract of Census divisions was sent to the Provincial Superintendent, who used it to correct, when necessary, the indents for forms previously sent to the Press.

Preliminary Record.

265. The next step was the preparation of the preliminary record—the entry in the enumeration schedules of the necessary particulars regarding each person ordinarily resident in each house. The information asked for included name, religion, sex, age, civil condition, caste, occupation, parent-tongue, birth-place, literacy or illiteracy, language in which literate and certain infirmities. In order to obtain an accurate record it was necessary that the enumerators should be very carefully trained beforehand. This training was carried out during November and December. The Charge Superintendents were first carefully taught at head-quarters or by officers of the higher grades deputed for the purpose; the supervisors were next instructed by the Charge Superintendents, and the enumerators by the supervisors. Classes were held at which the rules were explained and schedules were filled in experimentally. The mistakes made were corrected and explained on the spot.

Everything possible was done to give the enumerators a thorough knowledge of their duties; but, even so, experience on previous occasions had shown that numerous errors would still remain. The correction of these in the enumeration books would have made them very unsightly. To avoid this the original record was made on plain paper, and the actual Census schedules were not written up until the rough draft had been shown to, and corrected by,

the supervisors. The testing, however, was by no means confined to the supervisors. Every single officer who could be spared was given a share in the work, and for two days all Government offices were closed in order to set the whole staff free for the inspection of the record.

The actual Census.

266. The preliminary record was prepared in the mufassal between the 20th January and the 10th February. In towns it was begun and finished ten days later. The period remaining before the 1st March was utilised in checking the entries as described above. The actual Census was taken between 7 P.M. and midnight on the 1st March. Each enumerator visited every house in his block and, calling up the head of the family, brought the record up to date by striking out the entries relating to persons no longer present and filling in the necessary particulars for all newcomers. In a few jungly tracts this final revision of the record was commenced a few hours earlier, so as to be completed by nightfall. In the Tributary States of Chota Nagpur and in the greater part of Sikkim there was no final revision: the preliminary record was there treated as the actual Census.

Special arrangements, which need not be detailed here, were made for the enumeration of travellers by rail, road, steamer and boat; for wood-cutters in the Sundarbans and other forests, and for ports, large fairs, tea-gardens, &c.

The Provisional Totals.

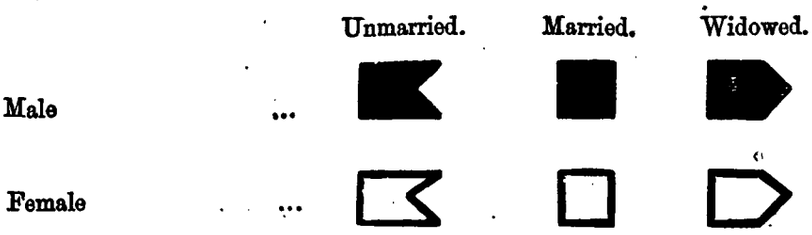
267. On the morning after the Census the enumerators repaired to a place previously fixed by the supervisor, and prepared an abstract showing the number of houses and of persons, male and female, in their blocks. These abstracts, after being checked by a second enumerator, were posted by the supervisor in a summary for his circle. The circle summaries were checked and posted in a charge summary, which was sent to head-quarters, where the provisional totals for the district were compiled. The first district to communicate its totals was Balasore (on the second day after the Census), which was followed closely by Puri, Darbhanga and other districts. The figures for the whole Province had been received by the 10th March, or within nine days of the Census. The total population, as shown by these provisional figures, was 78,489,933 against 78,493,410, the figure arrived at after detailed tabulation. The difference is only 3,477, or ·004 per cent. The nearest approximations to the final figures were at Puri, where there was a difference of two only. Backergunge, with a difference of 5; and the 24-Parganas, with a difference of 19.

The Compilation of the Results.

268. At previous enumerations the information contained in the schedules was extracted on "abstraction sheets" (one for each final table) which were divided by rules into spaces corresponding to the headings of the table concerned. A separate sheet was used for each enumeration-book, and a tick was made in the appropriate column for each entry. When the whole book had been abstracted, the ticks were added up. The figures thus obtained were totalled for the thana (this was called tabulation), and the thana figures were compiled into a total for the district.

On the present occasion this method was abandoned in favour of what is known as the slip system. A separate slip was prepared for each person enumerated, and the slips were then sorted for all the final tables in turn. Each sorter was supplied with a set of pigeon-holes, which were labelled to indicate their contents. For instance, when sorting by caste, one pigeon-hole would be labelled "Brahman," another "Kayasth," and so on. All slips on which Brahman was shown as the caste were placed in the pigeon-hole labelled "Brahman," and all those for Kayasths into the hole labelled "Kayasth." When the sorting for a table had been completed, the slips in each hole were counted, and the result was noted on a form called the sorters' ticket. After the sorting for a table had been finished, the figures in the sorters' tickets were posted in tabulation registers and added up to form the district total. This method of working out the results was invented by Herr von Mayr in connection with the Bavarian Census of 1872, and has since been adopted by almost all civilised countries, including many of the Colonies. It has many obvious advantages. It is much less complicated than the old method; the work is more easily tested; and by putting together and sorting at one time the slips for a considerable number of persons, the operation previously known as tabulation was entirely dispensed with.

In order to reduce the number of entries to be made on the slips different coloured slips were used for the different religions, and symbols were printed on them to indicate sex and civil condition. The symbols used in Bengal were as follows:—



The selection of the right slip thus obviated the necessity of making any entry for religion, sex or civil condition. The labour of copying was still further reduced by the judicious use of abbreviations.

In 1881 the results were compiled in three central offices. In 1891 the work was carried out at the head-quarters of each district. On the present occasion the slips were usually copied in the districts, and sent for sorting to six central offices. A certain amount of slip-copying was also carried out in the central offices, partly in order to give the officers in charge time to organize their establishments before the more difficult part of the work—sorting—began, and partly because, in some cases, there were special reasons why the slips could not conveniently be copied locally. This arrangement worked admirably, and within ten weeks of the Census almost the whole of the 78 million slips had been prepared. At one time the number of men employed exceeded 5,000.

Sorting and Compilation.

269. The sorting took longer. There were in all eighteen tables to be prepared, and some of them, such as those connected with castes and occupations, were very complicated and involved much correspondence with district officers and a great deal of local enquiry. The work, however, was practically finished by the end of September. Then followed compilation and revision, which, for the more elaborate tables, proved to be by far the most tedious part of the work. The caste tables in their original form were ready about the end of January 1902, and the occupation tables a month later; but the detailed examination of the statistics in the head office and the checking of all entries which appeared doubtful, either because they differed widely from the results of the last Census, or because of discrepancies in the figures for males and females, which were purposely kept separate throughout the earlier stages of the work, or for any other reason, took up much time. The last of the tables was thus not finally passed until after the end of May. The Census Report was issued four months later.

Cost of the Census.

270. The total expenditure of all kinds on the present Census of Bengal has been less than Rs. 3,90,000, or under Rs. 5 per 1,000 of the population, compared with Rs. 7,00,000, or rather more than Rs. 9-7 per 1,000, in 1891. This large reduction in cost was due, to a great extent, to the introduction of the slip system, but considerable savings were also effected in other directions, by improved record-room arrangements, the employment of men on lower pay and strict economy at all points.

General results of the Census.

271. The present Census shows a population of 78,493,410, of whom 39,278,186 are males and 39,215,224 females. In his report on the results of the Census the Superintendent of Census Operations has divided the Province into the following Natural Divisions, viz:—

(1) *West Bengal.*—The Burdwan Division.
(2) *Central Bengal.*—The Presidency Division, excluding Khulna.
(3) *North Bengal.*—The Rajshahi Division, Malda, Cooch Bihar and Sikkim.
(4) *East Bengal.*—The Dacca and Chittagong Divisions, Khulna and Hill Tippera.
(5) *North Bihar.*—Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Champaran, Saran, Bhagalpur, Purnea.
(6) *South Bihar.*—Patna, Gaya, Shahabad, Monghyr.
(7) *Orissa.*—The Orissa Division, excluding Angul.

(8) *Chota Nagpur Plateau.*—The Chota Nagpur Division, the Sonthal Parganas, Angul, and the Tributary States of Orissa and Chota Nagpur.

The principal statistics for each of these tracts are shown in the following statement:—

Locality.	Area.	Population.	Number of persons per square mile.	Percentage of variation (increase+ decrease—).			
				1891-1901.	1881-1891.	1872-1881.	Net variation 1872-1901.
PROVINCE	***189,837***	***78,493,410***	***413***	***+ 5·1***	***+ 7·3***	***+ 11·5***	***+ 25·9***
West Bengal	13,949	8,240,076	591	+ 7·1	+ 3·9	— 2·7	+ 8·3
Central Bengal	9,989	7,739,985	775	+ 5·1	+ 3·1	+11·7	+21·3
North Bengal	25,380	10,005,177	428	+ 5·9	+ 4·4	+ 5·3	+16·0
East Bengal	32,976	16,958,087	514	+10·4	+14·1	+10·9	+39·9
South Bihar	15,082	7,716,418	511	— 3·6	+ 2·6	+10·9	+ 9·7
North Bihar	21,746	13,831,120	636	+ 0·1	+ 5·8	+14·0	+20·8
Orissa	8,168	4,151,239	508	+ 7·1	+ 6·8	+17·6	+34·5
Chota Nagpur Plateau	64,555	9,851,308	152	+ 7·8	+13·5	+32·1	+61·8

The Chota Nagpur Plateau has by far the largest area, but it is very sparsely inhabited and its population is exceeded not only by that of East Bengal, which stands first in this respect, but also by that of North Bihar and North Bengal. The greatest density of population is found in Central Bengal. Then follow in order North Bihar, West Bengal and East Bengal, and then South Bihar, Orissa and North Bengal and, last of all, the Chota Nagpur Plateau. The comparatively low density in East Bengal is due to the inclusion of the Chittagong Hill Tracts and Hill Tippera. If these be excluded, the average number of persons per square mile rises to 701, or more than in any other tract except Central Bengal. Similarly if the figures for Sikkim, Darjeeling and the Jalpaiguri Duars be left out of account, the density in North Bengal comes to 551 persons to the square mile.

Between 1872 and 1881 the Chota Nagpur Plateau showed the greatest apparent development, but this was due mainly to the inaccuracy of the first Census in a wild, remote and sparsely-peopled tract, where the difficulties in the way of a proper enumeration are exceptionally great. Orissa, which came second, had suffered a terrible loss of population in the great famine of 1866, and its rapid growth was the natural reaction from that calamity during a period of renewed prosperity. In North and South Bihar, as in Chota Nagpur, the Census of 1872 was defective, and the increment brought to light in 1881 was to a great extent fictitious. The decline in West Bengal was due to the Burdwan fever, which was then at its height. Between 1881 and 1891 the apparent rate of development in East Bengal and Chota Nagpur was about the same, but the latter tract again owed part of its increase to better enumeration, and the real growth was greatest in East Bengal. Then followed Orissa and North Bihar, then North Bengal, and then in order West Bengal, Central Bengal and South Bihar. On the present occasion East Bengal again heads the list, and is followed in order by the Chota Nagpur Plateau, Orissa, West Bengal, North Bengal and Central Bengal. The population of North Bihar is stationary, while that of South Bihar has suffered a loss of 3 per cent.

So far as the figures go, the rate of growth in the Province as a whole shows a progressive decline, but this is due to a great extent to the inaccuracy of the earlier enumerations. The pioneer Census of 1872 was admittedly very incomplete. The enumeration of 1881 was much more accurate, and although it is impossible to estimate, even approximately, the extent to which this affected the comparative results of the two enumerations, it would probably be quite safe to say that, but for this disturbing factor, the excess of the figures for 1881 over those for 1872 would have been less than the increment disclosed by the present Census compared with 1891. But although the Census of 1881 was very much more complete than that of 1872, there were still tracts where the standard of accuracy fell considerably below that attained ten years later. The Superintendent of Census estimates that, of the increase disclosed by the Census of 1891, about half-a-million may be ascribed to the greater accuracy of the enumeration. But, even so, the increment then recorded exceeds that of the last decade by about 800,000. It is estimated that the plague, which appeared for the first time in 1898, accounted for

150,000 deaths; while the cyclone of the 24th October 1897, which devastated large tracts in Chittagong, is believed to be responsible, directly and indirectly, for a mortality of about 50,000. Apart from the deaths due to plague and cyclone, there seems no reason to believe that there has been any general increase in the death-rate, and the slower rate of growth seems to be due rather to a falling-off in the birth-rate. In Bihar successive bad seasons have led to various preventive checks on the growth of the population; while in Orissa and Central and West Bengal the birth-rate prior to 1891 was abnormally high owing to the recovery, in the one case, from the famine of 1866 and, in the other, from the ravages of the Burdwan fever.

Effect of Famine.

272. The brunt of the famine of 1896-97 fell on several districts of North Bihar. The question how far, if at all, the unprogressive state of that tract is due to its ravages has been fully considered in the Census Report, and the conclusion there arrived at is that no connection can be traced between the famine and the variations in the population. The stress of famine was greatest in Darbhanga, but this district shows the largest gain of population (3·9 per cent.). Purnea escaped the famine altogether, but it has sustained a loss of 3·5 per cent., or exactly the same as Champaran, where the decline is greatest in the very tract that suffered least from famine. Saran, which has a decrease of 2·2 per cent., was far less severely affected than Muzaffarpur, which has gained 1·5 per cent., and its loss of population is amply accounted for by the plague epidemic which was more virulent there than in any other district except Patna. The Gopalganj subdivision, where the famine was worst, has added slightly to its population. In Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga the great rice-growing tracts under the Nepal frontier, which suffered most in the famine year, show the greatest growth of population. The decadent tracts in Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur either escaped the famine altogether, or suffered from it only in a minor degree. The true causes of the decay in parts of North Bihar must, therefore, be sought elsewhere. Champaran and Purnea are well known to be unhealthy and have suffered since 1891, not only from malarial affections, but also from severe epidemics of cholera. The outbreak of this disease in Purnea in 1900 was of exceptional severity, and no fewer than 46,240 deaths were laid to its account in the annual returns of mortality. The part of Bhagalpur that has lost population borders on Purnea, and shares the unhealthiness of which that district is the victim. In Saran, as already noted, plague fully accounts for the decrease, which is greatest where that disease was most prevalent.

Distribution of population between Towns and Villages.

273. In the Province, as a whole, out of every 100 persons, 95 live in villages and only 5 in towns. Bengal is a distinctly agricultural country, and many even of the so-called towns are merely overgrown villages. The urban population is considerable only in Central Bengal, where the inclusion of Calcutta and its environs brings the proportion of urban population up to 19 per cent. But for this it would only slightly exceed 7 per cent. The second place is shared by West Bengal, with its flourishing industrial centres at Howrah, Bally, Serampore and Raniganj, and South Bihar, with its ancient towns of Patna, Gaya and Bihar. In both these tracts 7 per cent. of the inhabitants live in urban areas. Orissa follows with an urban population of 4 per cent., then North Bihar and North Bengal with 3 per cent., and, lastly, East Bengal and the Chota Nagpur Plateau with only 2 per cent. The order in which the different tracts stand is sufficient to show the want of any connection between the prosperity of the people and the growth of towns. The general standard of comfort is highest in East Bengal, although it has the smallest proportion of persons living in towns. South Bihar ranks comparatively high in this respect, and yet it includes the poorest part of the Province. The older towns, which usually owed their origin to the presence of a Native Court and its entourage, have few industries, and such as they possess are for the most part decadent; while in the newer towns the industries are carried on by foreign capital, and even the employés come from other parts of the country. The mills of Howrah and the coal mines of Asansol are alike worked with British capital by coolies from Bihar and the United Provinces, and the shop-keepers, who are enriched by the trade they bring, are also for the most part foreigners. The district-born, as a class, have so far benefited only indirectly by the growth of new industries.

274. The Census of Calcutta and the three Suburban Municipalities, Cossipore-Chitpur, Manicktala and Garden Reach, was taken under the supervision of the Deputy Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation. The total population of the metropolis, including its suburbs, is about 950,000, but if Howrah, which is really as much a part of Calcutta as Southwark is of London, be included, the population is very nearly 1,107,000, which is greater than that of any European city except London, Constantinople, Paris and Berlin, and of any city in America except New York, Chicago and Philadelphia. Excluding China, the population of whose cities is uncertain, the only city in Asia with more inhabitants than Calcutta is Tokio. According to the Census returns the expansion of the city of Calcutta during the last decade exceeds 24 per cent., but this is due in part to a more accurate enumeration. No fewer than two-thirds of the inhabitants of Calcutta are immigrants, and of these barely one quarter are females. Amongst the persons born in Calcutta the sexes are more evenly represented, and 46 per cent. of the total are females. The increase in the number of immigrants is about 83,000, and in that of the Calcutta-born about 72,000. In the suburbs the proportion of immigrants is even greater than in Calcutta itself.

Calcutta and Suburbs.

	1901.	1891.	1881.	1872.
Calcutta ...	847,796	682,305	612,307	633,009
Cossipore-Chitpur ...	40,750	31,423	26,294	25,369
Manicktala ...	32,387	28,161	48,125	53,992
Garden Reach ...	28,211	Not available.		
Total ...	*949,144*	*741,889*	*686,726*	*712,370*

275. Excluding Calcutta, Howrah, with a population of 157,594, is now the largest town in Bengal. It is a town of entirely modern growth, and owes its position to the fact that it has become an important manufacturing centre. The increase during the last decade has been 35 per cent., and it has grown by no less than 80 per cent. since 1872. Patna, on the other hand, has a very ancient history, and its population was once much greater than at present. It was estimated by Buchanan Hamilton at 312,000; but his calculation referred to an area of 20 square miles, whereas the city as now defined extends over only 9 square miles. At the present time its prosperity is declining owing to the gradual diversion of trade from the river to the railway. At the time of the Census plague was raging in the city, and the recorded population was only 134,785. Six months later, when the epidemic had subsided, a fresh count showed it to be 153,739, which was still nearly 17,000 less than in 1881.

Other large Towns.

Dacca was also a flourishing city long before the days of British rule. For about a century it was the capital of the Nawabs, and its muslins were once famous throughout Europe. When the demand for these muslins declined its prosperity was seriously affected, and in 1830 its population was only about 67,000. The growth of the jute business has now caused a revival, and its population again shows an upward tendency. It has now 90,542 inhabitants, or 30 per cent. more than in 1872.

276. The population returned under each of the main religions is noted below, together with the variation since 1891 :—

Population by Religion.

Division.	Hindus.			Musalmans.			Animistic.			Christians.		
	1901.	1891.	Percentage of variation, 1891-1901.	1901.	1891.	Percentage of variation.	1901.	1891.	Percentage of variation.	1901.	1891.	Percentage of variation.
PROVINCE ...	*49,687,362*	*47,821,468*	*+ 3·9*	*25,495,416*	*23,658,347*	*+ 7·7*	*2,780,468*	*2,753,061*	*+ 1·9*	*278,366*	*192,484*	*+ 44·6*
Burdwan ...	6,855,164	6,399,969	+ 7·1	1,084,820	999,191	+ 8·5	290,124	282,671	+ 2·6	9,463	6,312	+ 49·9
Presidency ...	4,502,490	4,251,457	+ 5·9	4,405,537	4,214,161	+ 4·5	12,842	9,720	+ 32·1	62,416	51,619	+ 20·9
Rajshahi ...	3,061,876	2,924,711	+ 4·6	5,283,182	5,025,330	+ 5·1	88,588	19,724	+349·1	3,742	2,995	+ 191·8
Dacca ...	3,524,287	3,359,181	+ 4·3	7,209,562	6,429,017	+ 12·1	28,959	30,010	− 3·6	23,079	18,385	+ 22·2
Chittagong ...	1,251,423	1,133,337	+ 10·4	3,353,326	2,914,650	+ 14·3	706	650	+ 6·9	2,443	2,032	+ 20·2
Patna ...	13,719,793	13,996,533	− 2·0	1,786,707	1,806,122	− 1·1	27	Nil	...	7,350	6,413	+ 14·6
Bhagalpur ...	6,279,471	6,099,212	+ 2·9	1,776,705	1,698,365	+ 4·6	656,585	775,766	− 18·1	12,696	8,262	+ 53·9
Orissa ...	4,183,456	3,943,139	+ 5·9	103,350	92,946	+ 11·6	51,103	332	...	5,037	4,657	+ 8·1
Chota Nagpur ...	3,359,583	3,105,079	+ 8·1	282,153	257,809	+ 9·4	1,113,836	1,175,633	− 5·5	143,900	89,654	+ 60·5
Native States ...	2,949,819	2,603,850	+ 13·2	230,074	220,756	+ 4·2	537,698	458,555	+ 17·2	3,241	1,655	+ 95·6

The persons returned as Hindus represent 63 per cent. of the total population of the Province, and the Muhammadans 33 per cent. All other religions, taken together, make up only 4 per cent. of the population. Hindus bulk most largely in Bihar (excluding Malda and East Purnea), Orissa and West

Bengal, and Muhammadans in the districts lying east of the Bhagirathi and the Mahananda. The Musalmans of Bengal form more than two-fifths of the total Muhammadan population of India.

Hindus and Muhammadans.

277. The actual numerical increase since 1891 is about the same for both Hindus and Muhammadans; but compared with their previous strength the followers of the Prophet have increased by nearly 8 per cent., while the Hindus have gained only 4 per cent. This result is due partly to the circumstance that the most progressive part of the Province is that inhabited by Muhammadans, while Bihar, the stronghold of Hinduism, has returned a smaller population than in 1891. This, however, is only a partial explanation. The Muhammadans have gained ground in every Division as compared with their Hindu neighbours. This subject has been discussed at length in the Census Report, and it will suffice to say here that Islam gains to some extent through conversions from Hinduism, but chiefly on account of the greater prolificness of its adherents. They have a more nourishing dietary; their girls marry later, and they permit widow-remarriage. They are also, in Eastern Bengal, more prosperous than the Hindus, as they have fewer prejudices about changing their residence and move freely to newly-formed *chars*, where the soil is exceptionally fertile.

Animists.

278. The advance made by Muhammadanism is to some extent obscured by the fact that Hinduism has itself been gaining new recruits from the ranks of the Animistic tribes, the Santals, Mundas, Oraons and other so-called aborigines. These tribes are amongst the most prolific in the Province, and yet the Census shows that the strength of the Animistic religions has increased by only one per cent. The true increase was probably more nearly 11 per cent., but the natural growth has been counterbalanced by conversions to Christianity and Hinduism. Christianity has taken some 60,000 during the last decade; the rest, about 200,000, have entered the fold of Hinduism. The large apparent increase in the Rajshahi Division is due to immigration.

Christians.

279. Of the total number of Christians 27,489, or 9·9 per cent., belong to European and allied races; 23,114,* or 8·3 per cent., are Eurasians; and 227,763, or 81·8 per cent., are native converts. Amongst Europeans about 91 per cent. are of British nationality. The great increase in the number of Christians is due to the growing number of converts, especially in Chota Nagpur, and more particularly in Ranchi, where the German Lutheran Missionaries have met with great success. This district now contains 124,958 Christians, against 75,693 only ten years ago. Some other districts in the Province which return a noteworthy increase in the number of Christians are shown in the margin. Of the total number, 165,540 are Protestants and 108,914 Roman Catholics. The remainder includes persons who failed to specify their sect and Armenians, &c. Of Protestants 57,810 belong to the Anglican Communion, 69,580 are Lutherans, 21,621 are Baptists and 7,182 are Presbyterians. The remainder belong to various miscellaneous sects.

District.	Number of Christians.	
	1901.	1891.
Calcutta	37,925	28,997
Sonthal Parganas ...	9,875	5,943
Darjeeling	4,467	1,502
Jalpaiguri	2,486	357
Burdwan	2,960	1,408
Manbhum	2,910	1,532
Mymensingh	1,291	211

Other Religions.

280. Of the other religions the most important is Buddhism, which has 237,893 adherents against 194,717 in 1891. The increase is due largely to the enumeration by religion of Sikkim, where 20,544 Buddhists were returned. There was also a considerable growth in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Chittagong, Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri, Hill Tippera, Backergunge and Calcutta. The figures for these districts are given in the margin. The Calcutta Buddhists are chiefly immigrant Chinamen. The small Buddhist Colony in the Baramba State, in Orissa, is an interesting survival of the time when Buddhism was the predominant religion in India. The persons in question are Saraks by caste. Recent enquiries tend to show that Buddhism of the Tantrik type survives to a very considerable extent

District.	Number of Buddhists in	
	1901.	1891.
Chittagong Hill Tracts.	83,137	74,128
Chittagong	64,973	61,615
Darjeeling	44,044	40,520
Jalpaiguri	6,291	2,509
Backergunge	7,220	6,080
Calcutta	2,903	2,199
Hill Tippera	5,999	4,734

* Includes 2,221 Feringis in East Bengal.

in the practical working religion of many of the lower castes in these Provinces. Jains now number 7,831 against 7,270 in 1891; Brahmos 3,171 against 2,546; Jews 1,946 against 1,448; Parsis 389 against 179, and Sikhs 340 against 417.

281. The age-return is so inaccurate that very little reliance can be placed on the absolute results. The degree of error may, however, be assumed to be fairly constant and, if so, some interesting conclusions may be deduced by a comparison of the figures for successive Censuses. It would seem that the mean age of the population, which fell slightly in 1891, has again risen to a somewhat higher figure than in 1881. This is due mainly to the variations in the birth-rate. The population was growing more rapidly than usual in the decade 1881—1891, and the larger proportion of young children reduced the average age of the population as a whole. The higher castes appear to live longer than the aboriginal tribes, while the latter have larger families than any other section of the community. There does not seem to be much difference in the relative longevity of Hindus and Muhammadans, but the latter are more prolific than the Hindus and are, consequently, increasing more rapidly. As already noticed, the birth-rate is gradually declining owing, it would seem, to the deliberate avoidance of child-bearing amongst certain sections of the community. **Age and Sex.**

The actual population shows a slight deficiency of females, who number only 998 to every 1,000 males; but if the effects of migration be discounted by considering only the natural population, *i.e.*, the persons born in the Province, it appears that the females exceed the males in the ratio of 1,003 to 1,000. Females are in marked excess in Bihar and Orissa and, to a less extent, in West Bengal and the Chota Nagpur Plateau. East of the Bhagirathi, where the Mongoloid element bulks more largely in the population, they are in a considerable minority. There has been a steady decline in the proportion of females since 1881, due to the fact that the most progressive tracts are, generally speaking, those where males predominate, while many of the districts with the largest proportion of the other sex are stationary or decadent.

282. The most striking fact brought out by the statistics of marriage is the universality of this institution. The number of persons, other than those suffering from some bodily or mental affliction, who go through life unmarried is extremely small. About half the total number of males enumerated were returned as unmarried, but of these four-fifths were under 15 years of age. Only one-third of the female population is unmarried, and of these only 4 per cent. were over 15. The proportion of the widowed is about 1 in 25 in the case of males, but amongst females nearly 1 in every 5 is a widow. **Marriage.**

The marriage practices vary greatly in different parts of the Province, especially in regard to females. The girls of the Animistic tribes marry when they are about 17 or 18 years of age. Muhammadan girls marry earlier, but not so early as their Hindu sisters, with whom marriage before puberty is the rule. In some parts of Bihar the Hindus marry their children much earlier than do those of Bengal Proper and Bihar, and in Darbhanga and the neighbourhood both boys and girls are frequently married before the age of 5. Widows remarry most freely amongst the Animistic tribes, and least so amongst the Hindus. Hindu widows of the higher castes are everywhere forbidden to take a second husband, and in Bengal Proper the prohibition extends to all but the lowest castes. The result is that the proportion of Hindu women of child-bearing age who are widowed is nearly twice as great in this tract as it is elsewhere. In the Province, as a whole, the age at marriage is gradually rising, while the proportion of the widowed is diminishing. The former circumstance is due, in part at least, to a genuine change in the customs of the people. In Darbhanga and the neighbourhood infant-marriage is as prevalent as ever, but elsewhere the tendency is to postpone the age at which girls are given in wedlock. The decline in the number of widows is due partly to the fact that the Muhammadans, Animistic tribes and low Hindu castes who permit their widows to marry again are increasing more rapidly than the section of the community that forbids them to do so, and partly to the effect of the preaching of the Maulavis amongst the Muhammadans and to the gradual disappearance of their old Hindu prejudices against widow-marriage.

283. Excluding immigrants the languages spoken in Bengal belong to one or other of four linguistic families—Aryan, Dravidian, Munda or Kolarian and Tibeto-Burman. Of these the languages of the Aryan family are by far the most important, and are spoken by no less than 95 per cent. of the total population. The Munda family comes next, but its speakers represent only 3½ per cent. of the total, while the other two families each claim less than 1 per cent. The Aryan languages are spoken in the plains by almost the whole population, while those of the other families are spoken only in the hills or by recent settlers in the plains. The home of the Munda and Dravidian dialects is in the Chota Nagpur Plateau. The Tibeto-Burman languages are found partly in Darjeeling and Sikkim and the adjoining district of Jalpaiguri, and partly in the south-eastern corner of Bengal, in the Chittagong Hill Tracts and Hill Tippera. There are also a few scattered colonies of people speaking languages of this formation in Dacca and Mymensingh. All these non-Aryan dialects are gradually dying out, and are being replaced by some Aryan form of speech. The main Aryan languages of Bengal are Bengali, Bihári, Eastern Hindi and Oriyá. The Census does not distinguish Bihári from Hindi: both are included in "Hindi." On the average, of every 1,000 persons in the Province 528 speak Bengali, 341 Hindi, including Bihári, 79 Oriyá and 1 Khas, leaving only 51 persons per 1,000 for all the other languages put together.

Language.

Aryan	family...	74,518,085
Munda	,, ...	2,781,211
Dravidian	,, ...	683,732
Tibeto-Burman	,, ...	450,591
Total	...	78,433,619

Infirmities.

284. The total number of persons suffering from each infirmity, as recorded at each of the last three enumerations, is noted in the margin. The most striking feature of the figures is the progressive decline in the number of the afflicted, especially between 1881 and 1891. The decrease then recorded, far from being peculiar to Bengal, was common to almost all parts of India. It was attributed by general consent to a more accurate enumeration, *i.e.*, to the exclusion from the returns of persons whose infirmities, whatever they might be, did not fall within the scope of the definition laid down in the instructions to the enumerators. On the present occasion, also, there can be little doubt that the continued decline, which is again not confined to Bengal, is due, in part at least, to the same cause.

Infirmity.	1901.	1891.	1881.
Insane	22,941	25,628	30,675
Deaf-mute ...	53,154	70,165	85,495
Blind	70,859	73,480	97,350
Lepers	37,377	46,390	56,523
Total ...	184,331	215,663	270,043

Insanity is most prevalent amongst the Mongoloid Koch and his Muhammadan congeners of North Bengal, while deaf-mutism is most rife in North Bihar, especially along the course of the Buri Gandak and one or two other rivers, where it is frequently associated with cretinism and goitre. Blindness occurs most frequently in South Bihar, where the rainfall is deficient and the glare and dust have a bad effect on the organs of sight, and is least common in the moist districts of East Bengal where there is seldom any dust, and a profusion of green vegetation rests the eye. In Bengal, as a whole, leprosy is not specially common, but in the districts of West Bengal, Burdwan, Bankura and Birbhum there is a larger proportion of lepers than in any other part of India. No satisfactory reason has been assigned for the wide diffusion of the affliction in this particular tract.

Education.

285. The only test of literacy was the ability to read and write any language. People of whatever age who could do this were entered as literate, and those who could not as illiterate. The qualification seems a very simple one, but, even so, only one male in 10 and one female in 200 were able to satisfy it. For every female who can read and write there are 20 males. The proportion of literate persons is highest in Orissa and Bengal Proper and lowest in Chota Nagpur. In the two tracts first-mentioned there is a larger proportion of literate persons than in any other Province in India. During the last decade the number of literate males shows a moderate increase of 11 per cent., while that of females has risen by 63 per cent.

Occupation.

286. The most striking feature of the return of occupation is the large proportion of the population who are dependent on agriculture. Nearly two-thirds of the people are either landlords or tenants; six per cent. have been returned as agricultural labourers, and of the seven per cent. shown as general labourers, the great majority must also be mainly dependent on agriculture. About twelve per cent. of the total population (including dependents) are

engaged in the preparation and supply of material substances, and of these half find a livelihood by the provision of food and drink, and a fifth by making and dealing in the textile fabrics and dress. Domestic and sanitary services provide employment for very few, and the number of persons who subsist by this means is barely two per cent. of the population, or less than a third of the proportion so employed in England and Wales. Commerce, transport and storage provide employment for two persons in every hundred, of whom rather more than half are engaged on transport and storage and slightly less than half on commerce. Including Brahman priests, the professions are the means of subsistence of less than two persons per cent.

CENSUS TABLES.

TABLE I.—Area, Houses and Population.
" II.—Variation in Population since 1872.
" III.—Religion.
" IV.—Age, Sex and Civil Condition.
" V.—Education.
" VI.—Occupations.

Chap. I.
PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

TABLE I.—AREA, HOUSES,

Serial No.	District or State.	Area in square miles.	Number of		Occupied Houses.		
			Towns.	Villages.	Total.	In towns.	In villages.
	BENGAL	***189,837***	***191***	***222,664***	***15,035,689***	***815,242***	***14,220,447***
	(1) British Territory ...	***151,185***	***182***	***203,476***	***14,329,110***	***805,147***	***13,523,963***
	BURDWAN DIVISION ...	***13,949***	***27***	***24,869***	***1,835,463***	***147,808***	***1,687,655***
1	Burdwan	2,689	6	3,662	362,729	22,686	340,043
2	Birbhum	1,752	1	3,317	209,518	2,090	207,428
3	Bankura	2,621	3	5,592	231,646	12,022	219,624
4	Midnapore	5,186	7	8,464	677,168	21,986	555,182
5	Hooghly	1,191	8	2,383	264,355	39,516	224,839
6	Howrah	510	2	1,451	190,047	49,508	140,539
	PRESIDENCY DIVISION ...	***12,066***	***46***	***20,496***	***1,740,388***	***269,350***	***1,471,038***
7	24-Parganas	2,108	25	5,082	384,656	88,134	296,522
8	Calcutta	20	1	.....	125,483	125,483	.....
9	Nadia	2,793	9	3,411	348,628	24,811	323,817
10	Murshidabad	2,143	5	3,668	283,078	18,914	264,164
11	Jessore	2,925	3	4,894	369,327	6,557	362,770
12	Khulna	2,077	3	3,441	229,216	5,451	223,765
	RAJSHAHI DIVISION ...	***17,356***	***17***	***28,317***	***1,583,252***	***35,827***	***1,547,425***
13	Rajshahi	2,593	2	6,344	287,803	7,002	280,801
14	Dinajpur	3,946	1	7,841	287,687	2,937	284,750
15	Jalpaiguri	2,962	2	766	156,625	2,043	154,582
16	Darjeeling	1,164	2	569	61,327	5,412	55,915
17	Rangpur	3,493	6	5,212	387,349	6,937	380,412
18	Bogra	1,359	2	3,865	143,754	2,509	141,245
19	Pabna	1,839	2	3,720	258,707	8,987	249,720
	DACCA DIVISION	***15,040***	***17***	***26,928***	***1,980,331***	***61,190***	***1,919,141***
20	Dacca	2,782	2	7,263	470,243	21,663	448,580
21	Mymensingh	6,332	8	9,770	665,296	21,967	643,329
22	Faridpur	2,281	2	5,283	73,308	6,434	366,874
23	Backergunge	3,645	5	4,612	471,484	11,126	460,358
	CHITTAGONG DIVISION ...	***11,773***	***6***	***9,740***	***865,877***	***16,633***	***849,244***
24	Tippera	2,499	3	5,361	359,843	9,590	350,253
25	Noakhali	1,644	1	2,633	209,147	1,305	207,842
26	Chittagong	2,492	2	1,450	275,477	5,738	269,739
27	Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	5,138	.....	296	21,410	.....	21,410
	PATNA DIVISION	***23,686***	***35***	***34,169***	***2,968,457***	***170,316***	***2,798,141***
28	Patna	2,075	7	4,952	311,213	55,549	255,664
29	Gaya	4,712	8	7,371	405,675	23,642	382,033
30	Shahabad	4,373	6	5,515	368,450	24,011	344,439
31	Saran	2,650	4	5,855	465,870	18,321	447,549
32	Champaran	3,531	2	2,623	316,400	8,247	308,153
33	Muzaffarpur	3,004	4	4,120	523,691	18,984	504,707
34	Durbhanga	3,335	4	3,233	577,158	21,562	555,596
	BHAGALPUR DIVISION ...	***20,511***	***15***	***21,656***	***1,581,584***	***47,089***	***1,534,495***
35	Monghyr	3,922	4	2,516	380,106	16,350	363,756
36	Bhagalpur	4,226	2	3,063	382,667	15,589	367,068
37	Purnea	4,994	3	3,355	345,573	6,704	338,869
38	Malda	1,399	3	3,556	162,795	5,374	157,421
39	Sonthal Parganas	5,470	3	9,167	310,463	3,072	307,391
	ORISSA DIVISION	***9,841***	***6***	***13,425***	***847,828***	***33,419***	***814,409***
40	Cuttack	3,629	3	5,517	403,826	17,289	386,539
41	Balasore	2,059	2	3,358	181,491	8,609	172,882
42	Angul and Khondmals ...	1,681	.....	1,449	39,793	.....	39,793
43	Puri	2,472	1	3,101	222,716	7,521	215,195
	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION ...	***26,963***	***13***	***23,876***	***925,930***	***23,515***	***902,415***
44	Hazaribagh	7,021	3	8,843	224,014	7,104	216,910
45	Ranchi	7,128	4	3,173	224,702	7,608	217,094
46	Palamau	4,914	2	3,184	116,195	1,903	113,292
47	Manbhum	4,147	3	5,521	244,622	5,084	239,538
48	Singhbhum	3,753	1	3,150	117,397	1,816	115,581
	(2) Feudatory States ...	***38,652***	***9***	***19,188***	***706,579***	***10,095***	***696,484***
49	Cooch Behar	1,307	4	1,193	111,290	3,132	108,158
50	Tributary States, Orissa ...	14,387	4	11,805	388,626	4,950	383,676
51	Ditto Chota Nagpur	16,054	.....	4,603	184,903	.....	184,903
52	Hill Tippera	4,086	1	1,463	30,678	2,013	28,665
53	Sikkim	2,818	.....	125	11,082	.....	11,082
	BRITISH SUBJECTS IN CHANDERNAGORE.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

POPULATION.									Serial No.
PERSONS.			MALES.			FEMALES.			
Total.	Urban.	Rural.	Total.	Urban.	Rural.	Total.	Urban.	Rural.	
78,493,410	*3,916,383*	*74,577,027*	*39,278,186*	*2,225,498*	*37,052,688*	*39,215,224*	*1,690,885*	*37,524,339*	
74,744,866	*3,879,268*	*70,874,598*	*37,376,782*	*2,198,889*	*35,177,893*	*37,368,084*	*1,671,379*	*35,696,705*	
8,240,076	*548,719*	*7,691,357*	*4,116,952*	*312,636*	*3,804,316*	*4,123,124*	*236,083*	*3,887,041*	
1,532,475	86,728	1,445,747	764,742	47,308	717,434	767,733	39,420	728,313	1
902,280	8,692	893,588	444,689	4,703	439,986	457,591	3,989	453,602	2
1,116,411	53,275	1,063,136	549,484	26,086	523,398	566,927	27,189	539,738	3
2,789,114	89,876	2,699,238	1,390,233	46,457	1,343,776	1,398,881	43,419	1,355,462	4
1,049,282	133,892	915,390	525,279	76,795	451,484	521,003	57,097	463,906	5
850,514	176,256	674,258	439,525	111,287	328,238	410,989	64,969	346,020	6
8,993,028	*1,462,724*	*7,530,304*	*4,703,869*	*905,229*	*3,798,633*	*4,289,166*	*557,495*	*3,731,671*	
2,078,359	398,130	1,680,229	1,092,916	232,004	860,912	985,443	166,126	819,317	7
847,796	847,796	.....	562,596	562,596	.....	285,200	285,200	.....	8
1,667,491	95,355	1,572,136	827,509	46,386	781,123	839,982	48,969	791,013	9
1,333,184	75,908	1,257,276	653,346	39,123	614,223	679,838	36,785	643,053	10
1,813,155	21,299	1,791,856	914,025	11,711	902,314	899,130	9,588	889,542	11
1,253,043	24,236	1,228,807	655,470	13,409	640,061	599,573	10,827	588,746	12
8,495,159	*157,575*	*8,337,584*	*4,393,398*	*90,819*	*4,302,579*	*4,101,761*	*66,756*	*4,035,005*	
1,462,407	30,243	1,432,164	741,690	16,160	725,530	720,717	14,083	706,634	13
1,567,080	13,430	1,553,650	823,972	8,067	815,905	743,108	5,363	737,745	14
787,380	10,289	777,091	422,877	6,513	416,364	364,503	3,776	360,727	15
249,117	21,393	227,724	133,005	12,659	120,346	116,112	8,734	107,378	16
2,154,181	29,484	2,124,697	1,125,109	18,892	1,106,217	1,029,072	10,592	1,018,480	17
854,533	11,198	843,335	437,349	6,319	431,030	417,184	4,879	412,305	18
1,420,461	41,538	1,378,923	709,396	22,209	687,187	711,065	19,329	691,736	19
10,793,988	*295,097*	*10,498,891*	*5,473,289*	*174,298*	*5,298,991*	*5,320,699*	*120,799*	*5,199,900*	
2,649,522	115,014	2,534,508	1,312,417	67,331	1,245,086	1,337,105	47,683	1,289,422	20
3,915,068	105,397	3,809,671	2,014,805	59,733	1,955,072	1,900,263	45,664	1,854,599	21
1,937 646	29,112	1,908,534	970,164	16,238	953,926	967,482	12,874	954,608	22
2,291,752	45,574	2,246,178	1,175,903	30,996	1,144,907	1,115,849	14,578	1,101,271	23
4,737,731	*80,951*	*4,656,780*	*2,364,396*	*48,499*	*2,315,897*	*2,373,335*	*32,452*	*2,340,883*	
2,117,991	48,446	2,069,545	1,085,989	28,656	1,057,333	1,032,002	19,790	1,012,212	24
4,141,728	6,520	1,135,208	568,777	4,303	564,474	572,951	2,217	570,734	25
1,353,250	25,985	1,327,265	641,392	15,540	625,852	711,858	10,445	701,413	26
124,762	.....	124,762	68,238	.....	68,238	56,524	.....	56,524	27
15,514,987	*794,637*	*14,720,350*	*7,468,314*	*393,143*	*7,075,171*	*8,046,673*	*401,494*	*7,645,179*	
1,624,985	251,113	1,373,872	804,583	124,020	680,563	820,402	127,093	693,309	28
2,059,933	114,425	1,945,508	1,011,271	57,377	953,894	1,048,662	57,048	991,614	29
1,962,696	118,106	1,844,590	936,544	55,355	881,189	1,026,152	62,751	963,401	30
2,409,509	81,120	2,328,389	1,095,288	39,135	1,056,153	1,314,221	41,985	1,272,236	31
1,790,463	38,426	1,752,037	885,607	20,941	865,266	904,856	18,085	886,771	32
2,754,790	88,055	2,666,735	1,318,547	44,733	1,273,814	1,436,243	43,322	1,392,921	33
2,912,611	103,392	2,809,219	1,416,474	52,182	1,364,292	1,496,137	51,210	1,444,927	34
8,726,318	*242,035*	*8,484,283*	*4,331,579*	*125,720*	*4,205,859*	*4,394,739*	*116,315*	*4,278,424*	
2,068,804	71,436	1,997,368	1,011,580	35,633	975,947	1,057,224	35,803	1,021,421	35
2,088,953	81,498	2,007,455	1,027,535	42,618	984,917	1,061,418	38,880	1,022,538	36
1,874,794	31,439	1,843,355	968,452	17,498	940,954	916,342	13,941	902,401	37
884,030	34,426	849,604	437,639	17,654	419,985	446,391	16,772	429,619	38
1,809,737	23,236	1,786,501	896,373	12,317	884,056	913,364	10,919	902,445	39
4,343,150	*167,452*	*4,175,698*	*2,115,726*	*86,644*	*2,029,082*	*2,227,424*	*80,808*	*2,146,616*	
2,062,758	78,720	1,984,038	995,409	41,077	954,332	1,067,349	37,643	1,029,706	40
1,071,197	39,398	1,031,799	617,543	19,635	497,908	553,654	19,763	533,891	41
191,911	.....	191,911	95,935	.....	95,935	95,976	.....	95,976	42
1,017,284	49,334	967,950	506,839	25,932	480,907	510,445	23,402	487,043	43
4,900,429	*121,078*	*4,779,351*	*2,409,266*	*61,901*	*2,347,365*	*2,491,163*	*59,177*	*2,431,986*	
1,177,961	35,831	1,142,130	570,122	17,922	552,200	607,839	17,909	589,930	44
1,187,925	40,808	1,147,117	577,180	20,680	556,500	610,745	20,128	590,617	45
619,600	9,447	610,153	306,203	5,107	301,096	313,397	4,340	309,057	46
1,301,664	26,339	1,275,025	653,336	13,866	639,470	648,028	12,473	635,555	47
613,579	8,653	604,926	302,425	4,326	298,099	311,164	4,327	306,837	48
3,748,544	*46,115*	*3,702,429*	*1,901,404*	*26,609*	*1,874,795*	*1,847,140*	*19,506*	*1,827,634*	
566,974	14,060	552,914	301,382	9,130	292,252	265,592	4,930	260,662	49
1,947,802	22,542	1,925,260	969,973	11,632	958,341	977,829	10,910	966,919	50
1,001,429	.....	1,001,429	506,759	.....	506,759	494,670	.....	494,670	51
173,325	9,513	163,812	92,495	5,847	86,648	80,830	3,666	77,164	52
59,014	.....	59,014	30,795	.....	30,795	28,219	.....	28,219	53
10,999	10,999	.....	6,444	6 444	.....	4,555	4,555	.....	

TABLE II.—VARIATION IN

Serial No.	District or State.	Persons.				Variation. Increase (+) or Decrease (−).		
		1901.	1891.	1881.	1872.	1891—1901.	1881—1891.	1872—1881.
	BENGAL	*78,493,410*	*74,673,798*	*69,536,940*	*62,335,217*	*+3,819,612*	*+5,136,858*	*+7,201,723*
	(1) *British Territory* ...	*74,744,866*	*71,346,961*	*66,750,494*	*60,165,084*	*+3,397,905*	*+4,596,467*	*+6,585,410*
	BURDWAN DIVISION ...	*8,940,076*	*7,689,189*	*7,393,954*	*7,604,661*	*+ 550,887*	*+ 295,235*	*− 210,707*
1	Burdwan	1,532,475	1,391,880	1,394,220	1,486,400	+ 140,595	− 2,340	− 92,180
2	Birbhum	902,280	798,254	792,031	851,235	+ 104,026	+ 6,223	− 59,204
3	Bankura	1,116,411	1,069,668	1,041,752	968,597	+ 46,743	+ 27,916	+ 73,155
4	Midnapore	2,789,114	2,631,466	2,515,565	2,542,920	+ 157,648	+ 115,901	− 27,355
5	Hooghly	1,049,282	1,034,296	974,993	1,119,631	+ 14,986	+ 59,304	− 144,639
6	Howrah	850,514	763,625	675,394	635,878	+ 86,889	+ 88,231	+ 39,516
	PRESIDENCY DIVISION...	*8,993,028*	*8,535,126*	*8,211,986*	*7,427,343*	*+ 457,902*	*+ 323,140*	*+ 784,643*
7	24-Parganas	2,078,359	1,891,288	1,690,771	1,581,448	+ 187,071	+ 200,517	+ 109,323
8	Calcutta	847,796	682,305	612,307	633,009	+ 165,491	+ 69,998	− 20,702
9	Nadia	1,667,491	1,644,108	1,662,795	1,500,397	+ 23,383	− 18,687	+ 162,398
10	Murshidabad	1,333,184	1,250,946	1,226,790	1,214,104	+ 82,238	+ 24,156	+ 12,686
11	Jessore	1,813,155	1,888,827	1,339,375	1,451,507	− 75,672	− 50,548	+ 487,868
12	Khulna	1,253,043	1,177,652	1,079,948	1,046,878	+ 75,391	+ 97,704	+ 33,070
	RAJSHAHI DIVISION ...	*8,495,159*	*8,017,402*	*7,725,051*	*7,372,755*	*+ 477,757*	*+ 292,351*	*+ 352,296*
13	Rajshahi	1,462,407	1,439,634	1,450,776	1,423,592	+ 22,773	− 11,142	+ 27,184
14	Dinajpur	1,567,080	1,482,570	1,442,518	1,430,096	+ 84,510	+ 40,052	+ 12,422
15	Jalpaiguri	787,380	680,736	580,570	417,855	+ 106,644	+ 100,166	+ 162,715
16	Darjeeling	249,117	223,314	155,645	94,996	+ 25,803	+ 67,669	+ 60,649
17	Rangpur	2,154,181	2,065,464	2,097,964	2,153,686	+ 88,717	− 32,500	− 55,722
18	Bogra	854,533	764,461	686,974	642,060	+ 90,072	+ 77,487	+ 44,914
19	Pabna	1,420,461	1,361,223	1,310,604	1,210,470	+ 59,238	+ 50,619	+ 100,134
	DACCA DIVISION ...	*10,793,988*	*9,845,296*	*8,707,040*	*7,597,500*	*+ 948,692*	*+ 1,138,256*	*+ 1,109,540*
20	Dacca	2,649,522	2,395,430	2,090,877	1,827,931	+ 254,092	+ 304,553	+ 262,946
21	Mymensingh	3,915,068	3,472,186	3,055,237	2,351,695	+ 442,882	+ 416,949	+ 703,542
22	Faridpur	1,937,646	1,823,715	1,660,037	1,530,288	+ 113,931	+ 163,678	+ 129,749
23	Backergunge	2,291,752	2,153,965	1,900,889	1,887,586	+ 137,787	+ 253,076	+ 13,303
	CHITTAGONG DIVISION	*4,737,731*	*4,190,081*	*3,569,071*	*3,441,430*	*+ 547,650*	*+ 621,010*	*+ 127,641*
24	Tippera	2,117,991	1,782,935	1,514,361	1,404,045	+ 335,056	+ 268,574	+ 110,316
25	Noakhali	1,141,728	1,009,693	820,772	840,376	+ 132,035	+ 188,921	− 19,604
26	Chittagong	1,353,250	1,290,167	1,132,341	1,127,402	+ 63,083	+ 157,826	+ 4,939
27	Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	124,762	107,286	101,597	69,607	+ 17,476	+ 5,689	+ 31,990
	PATNA DIVISION ...	*15,514,987*	*15,811,604*	*15,061,493*	*13,118,917*	*− 296,617*	*+ 750,111*	*+ 1,942,576*
28	Patna	1,624,985	1,773,410	1,756,196	1,559,517	− 148,425	+ 17,214	+ 196,679
29	Gaya	2,059,933	2,138,331	2,124,682	1,947,824	− 78,398	+ 13,649	+ 176,858
30	Shahabad	1,962,696	2,060,579	1,949,900	1,710,471	− 97,883	+ 110,679	+ 239,429
31	Saran	2,409,509	2,465,007	2,295,207	2,076,640	− 55,498	+ 169,800	+ 218,567
32	Champaran	1,790,463	1,859,465	1,721,608	1,440,815	− 69,002	+ 137,857	+ 280,793
33	Muzaffarpur	2,754,790	2,712,857	2,583,404	2,246,752	+ 41,933	+ 129,453	+ 336,652
34	Darbhanga	2,912,611	2,801,955	2,630,496	2,136,898	+ 110,656	+ 171,459	+ 493,598
	BHAGALPUR DIVISION ...	*8,726,318*	*8,582,069*	*8,066,111*	*7,292,184*	*+ 144,249*	*+ 515,958*	*+ 773,927*
35	Monghyr	2,068,804	2,036,021	1,969,950	1,814,638	+ 32,783	+ 66,071	+ 155,312
36	Bhagalpur	2,088,953	2,032,696	1,967,635	1,826,038	+ 56,257	+ 65,061	+ 141,597
37	Purnea	1,874,794	1,944,658	1,849,073	1,714,935	− 69,864	+ 95,585	+ 134,078
38	Malda	884,030	814,919	711,487	677,328	+ 69,111	+ 103,432	+ 34,159
39	Sonthal Parganas ...	1,809,737	1,753,775	1,567,966	1,259,185	+ 55,962	+ 185,809	+ 308,781
	ORISSA DIVISION ...	*4,343,150*	*4,047,402*	*3,789,799*	*3,162,595*	*+ 295,748*	*+ 257,603*	*+ 627,204*
40	Cuttack	2,062,758	1,937,671	1,795,065	1,544,210	+ 125,087	+ 142,606	+ 250,855
41	Balasore	1,071,197	994,675	945,280	770,232	+ 76,522	+ 49,395	+ 175,048
42	Angul and Khondmals ...	191,911	170,058	160,862	78,374	+ 21,853	+ 9,196	+ 82,488
43	Puri	1,017,284	944,998	888,592	769,779	+ 72,286	+ 56,406	+ 118,813
	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION	*4,900,429*	*4,628,792*	*4,225,989*	*3,147,699*	*+ 271,637*	*+ 402,803*	*+ 1,078,290*
44	Hazaribagh	1,177,961	1,164,321	1,104,742	771,875	+ 13,640	+ 59,579	+ 332,867
45	Ranchi	1,187,925	1,128,885	1,058,169	813,328	+ 59,040	+ 70,716	+ 244,841
46	Palamau	619,600	596,770	551,075	423,795	+ 22,830	+ 45,695	+ 127,280
47	Manbhum	1,301,364	1,193,328	1,058,228	820,321	+ 108,036	+ 135,100	+ 237,707
48	Singhbhum	613,579	545,488	453,775	318,180	+ 68,091	+ 91,713	+ 135,595
	(2) *Feudatory States* ...	*3,748,544*	*3,326,837*	*2,786,446*	*2,170,133*	*+ 421,707*	*+ 540,391*	*+ 616,313*
49	Cooch Behar	586,974	578,868	602,624	532,565	− 11,894	− 23,756	+ 70,059
50	Tributary States, Orissa ...	1,947,802	1,696,710	1,410,183	1,103,699	+ 251,092	+ 286,527	+ 306,484
51	Ditto, Chota Nagpur ...	1,001,429	883,359	678,002	498,607	+ 118,070	+ 205,357	+ 179,395
52	Hill Tippera	173,325	137,442	95,637	35,262	+ 35,883	+ 41,805	+ 60,375
53	Sikkim	59,014	30,458	.....	.....	+ 28,556	.....	.....
	British subjects in Chandernagore.	10,999	4,913	853	Not available	+ 6,086	+ 4,060	Not available

POPULATION SINCE 1872.

NET VARIATION IN PERIOD 1872—1901. Increase (+) or Decrease (−).	MALES. 1901.	MALES. 1891.	MALES. 1881.	MALES. 1872.	FEMALES. 1901.	FEMALES. 1891.	FEMALES. 1881.	FEMALES. 1872.	Serial No.
+ 16,158,193	*39,278,186*	*37,252,375*	*34,625,630*	*31,163,598*	*39,215,224*	*37,421,423*	*34,911,310*	*31,171,619*	
+ 14,579,782	*37,376,782*	*35,563,447*	*33,204,721*	*30,059,388*	*37,368,084*	*35,783,514*	*33,545,773*	*30,105,696*	
+ 635,415	*4,116,952*	*3,800,758*	*3,606,699*	*3,726,489*	*4,123,124*	*3,888,431*	*3,787,255*	*3,878,172*	
+ 46,075	764,742	682,872	669,455	727,341	767,733	709,008	724,765	759,059	1
+ 51,045	444,089	389,842	380,403	407,303	457,591	408,412	411,628	443,932	2
+ 147,814	549,484	525,941	507,136	480,339	566,927	543,727	534,616	488,258	3
+ 246,194	1,390,233	1,308,074	1,243,195	1,258,169	1,398,881	1,323,392	1,272,370	1,284,751	4
− 70,349	528,279	509,185	470,706	541,354	521,003	525,111	504,286	578,377	5
+ 214,636	439,525	384,844	335,804	312,083	410,989	378,781	339,590	323,795	6
+ 1,565,685	*4,703,862*	*4,403,151*	*4,187,795*	*3,796,898*	*4,289,166*	*4,131,975*	*4,024,191*	*3,630,445*	
+ 496,911	1,092,916	988,862	870,794	803,259	985,443	912,426	819,977	778,189	7
+ 214,787	562,596	447,162	393,453	407,742	285,200	235,143	218,854	225,267	8
+ 167,094	827,509	802,147	809,392	729,060	839,982	841,961	853,403	771,337	9
+ 119,080	653,346	605,665	586,463	580,165	679,838	645,281	640,307	633,939	10
+ 361,648	914,625	941,334	959,271	715,943	899,130	947,493	980,104	735,564	11
+ 206,165	653,470	617,981	568,402	560,729	599,573	559,671	511,546	486,149	12
+ 1,122,404	*4,393,398*	*4,111,730*	*3,921,272*	*3,740,245*	*4,101,761*	*3,905,672*	*3,803,779*	*3,632,510*	
+ 38,815	741,690	719,289	716,229	707,017	720,717	720,345	734,547	716,575	13
+ 136,984	823,972	774,380	746,378	740,517	743,108	708,190	696,140	689,579	14
+ 369,525	422,877	364,319	304,889	216,488	364,503	316,417	275,681	201,367	15
+ 154,121	133,005	123,046	89,351	53,199	116,112	100,268	66,294	41,797	16
+ 495	1,125,109	1,061,812	1,067,701	1,096,911	1,029,072	1,003,652	1,030,263	1,056,775	17
+ 212,473	437,349	391,632	348,975	324,161	417,184	372,829	337,999	317,899	18
+ 209,991	709,396	677,252	647,749	601,952	711,065	683,971	662,855	608,518	19
+ 3,196,488	*5,473,289*	*4,987,392*	*4,369,733*	*3,798,077*	*5,320,699*	*4,857,904*	*4,337,307*	*3,799,423*	
+ 821,591	1,312,417	1,187,739	1,021,054	893,244	1,337,105	1,207,691	1,069,823	934,687	20
+ 1,563,373	2,014,805	1,788,616	1,555,605	1,188,816	1,900,263	1,682,570	1,500,232	1,162,879	21
+ 407,358	970,164	906,594	820,195	750,714	967,452	917,121	839,842	779,574	22
+ 404,166	1,175,903	1,104,443	973,479	965,303	1,115,849	1,049,522	927,410	922,283	23
+ 1,296,301	*2,364,396*	*2,095,960*	*1,771,893*	*1,719,713*	*2,373,335*	*2,094,121*	*1,797,178*	*1,721,717*	
+ 713,946	1,085,989	911,799	768,450	716,816	1,632,002	871,136	745,911	687,229	24
+ 301,352	568,777	508,727	415,248	425,955	572,951	510,966	405,424	414,421	25
+ 226,848	641,302	615,868	531,649	536,059	711,858	674,299	600,692	591,343	26
+ 55,155	68,238	59,566	56,546	40,883	56,524	47,720	45,051	28,724	27
+ 2,396,070	*7,468,314*	*7,648,450*	*7,366,977*	*6,475,483*	*8,046,673*	*8,163,154*	*7,694,516*	*6,643,434*	
+ 65,468	804,583	868,026	858,801	761,816	820,402	905,384	897,395	797,701	28
+ 112,109	1,011,271	1,045,011	1,043,441	953,205	1,048,663	1,093,320	1,081,241	994,619	29
+ 252,225	936,544	989,596	943,083	828,623	1,026,152	1,070,983	1,006,817	881,848	30
+ 332,869	1,095,258	1,132,670	1,096,293	1,003,074	1,314,221	1,332,337	1,204,914	1,073,566	31
+ 349,648	885,607	936,135	870,627	737,529	904,856	923,330	850,981	703,286	32
+ 508,038	1,318,547	1,306,027	1,266,403	1,107,688	1,436,243	1,406,830	1,317,001	1,139,064	33
+ 775,713	1,416,474	1,370,985	1,294,329	1,083,548	1,496,137	1,430,970	1,336,167	1,055,350	34
+ 1,434,134	*4,331,579*	*4,255,714*	*4,019,110*	*3,652,580*	*4,394,739*	*4,326,355*	*4,047,001*	*3,639,604*	
+ 254,166	1,011,580	987,072	969,238	897,921	1,057,224	1,048,949	1,000,712	916,717	35
+ 262,915	1,027,535	1,004,865	979,705	917,036	1,061,418	1,027,831	987,930	909,002	36
+ 159,799	958,452	993,406	937,420	876,420	916,342	951,162	911,653	838,575	37
+ 206,702	437,639	399,917	347,508	331,539	446,391	415,002	363,979	345,789	38
+ 550,552	896,373	870,364	785,239	629,664	913,364	883,411	782,727	629,521	39
+ 1,180,555	*2,115,726*	*1,982,519*	*1,867,673*	*1,558,654*	*2,227,424*	*2,064,883*	*1,922,126*	*1,603,941*	
+ 518,548	995,409	940,557	877,703	750,300	1,067,349	997,114	917,363	793,910	40
+ 300,965	517,543	481,664	461,461	379,077	553,654	513,011	483,819	391,155	41
+ 113,537	95,935	85,768	81,850	39,777	95,976	84,290	79,012	38,597	42
+ 247,505	506,839	474,530	446,660	389,500	510,445	470,468	441,932	380,279	43
+ 1,752,730	*2,409,266*	*2,277,773*	*2,093,569*	*1,591,249*	*2,491,163*	*2,351,019*	*2,132,420*	*1,556,450*	
+ 406,086	570,122	566,964	544,903	397,045	607,839	597,357	559,839	374,830	44
+ 374,597	577,180	551,873	523,346	407,964	610,745	577,012	534,823	405,364	45
+ 195,805	306,203	294,320	273,311	213,584	313,397	302,450	277,764	210,311	46
+ 480,843	653,336	593,199	525,328	413,371	648,028	600,129	532,900	407,150	47
+ 295,399	302,425	271,417	226,681	159,285	311,154	274,071	227,094	158,895	48
+ 1,578,411	*1,901,404*	*1,688,928*	*1,420,909*	*1,104,210*	*1,847,140*	*1,637,909*	*1,365,537*	*1,065,923*	
+ 34,409	301,382	302,457	311,678	278,585	265,592	276,411	290,946	253,980	49
+ 844,103	969,073	849,450	712,535	554,902	977,829	847,260	697,648	548,797	50
+ 502,822	506,759	449,683	345,238	252,461	494,670	433,676	332,764	246,146	51
+ 138,063	92,495	71,596	51,453	18,262	80,830	65,846	44,179	17,000	52
.....	30,795	15,742	.....	.....	28,219	14,716	.....	.....	53
.....	6,444	2,922	670	Not available	4,555	1,991	183	Not available	

TABLE III.—

Serial No.	District.	TOTAL POPULATION.			HINDU.*			BUDDHIST.		
		Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.
	BENGAL	***78,493,410***	***39,278,186***	***39,215,224***	***49,690,533***	***24,782,887***	***24,907,653***	***237,893***	***120,669***	***117,224***
	(1) ***British Territory*** ...	***74,744,866***	***37,376,782***	***37,368,084***	***46,740,661***	***23,290,787***	***23,449,874***	***210,628***	***106,335***	***104,293***
	BURDWAN DIVISION ...	***8,240,076***	***4,116,952***	***4,123,124***	***6,855,341***	***3,428,339***	***3,427,002***	***88***	***85***	***3***
1	Burdwan	1,532,475	764,742	767,733	1,221,038	607,592	613,446	9	8	1
2	Birbhum	902,280	444,689	457,591	657,701	323,679	334,022	1	1	.....
3	Bankura	1,116,411	549,484	566,927	975,763	479,888	495,875	4	4	.....
4	Midnapore	2,789,114	1,390,233	1,398,881	2,467,068	1,233,142	1,234,926	24	24	.....
5	Hooghly	1,049,282	528,279	521,003	861,142	435,733	425,409	6	4	2
6	Howrah	850,514	439,525	410,989	672,629	349,305	323,324	44	44	.....
	PRESIDENCY DIVISION...	***8,993,028***	***4,703,862***	***4,289,166***	***4,504,428***	***2,375,322***	***2,129,106***	***3,005***	***2,507***	***498***
7	24-Parganas	2,078,359	1,092,916	985,443	1,310,193	690,751	619,442	91	90	1
8	Calcutta	847,796	562,596	285,200	553,261	362,288	190,973	2,903	2,408	495
9	Nadia	1,667,491	827,509	839,982	676,407	333,997	342,410	1	1	.....
10	Murshidabad	1,333,184	653,346	679,838	643,494	317,993	325,501	6	4	2
11	Jessore	1,813,155	914,025	899,130	701,938	347,487	354,451	2	2	.....
12	Khulna	1,253,043	653,470	599,573	619,135	322,806	296,329	2	2	.....
	RAJSHAHI DIVISION ...	***8,495,159***	***4,393,398***	***4,101,761***	***3,062,011***	***1,618,318***	***1,443,693***	***50,396***	***25,362***	***25,034***
13	Rajshahi	1,462,407	741,690	720,717	325,129	170,446	154,683	19	19	.....
14	Dinajpur	1,567,080	823,972	743,108	726,429	384,609	341,820	.....	.....	.....
15	Jalpaiguri	787,380	422,877	364,503	534,636	287,803	246,833	6,291	3,303	2,988
16	Darjeeling	249,117	133,005	116,112	187,884	101,021	86,863	44,044	21,999	22,045
17	Rangpur	2,154,181	1,125,109	1,029,072	776,661	413,345	363,316	38	38	.....
18	Bogra	854,533	437,349	417,184	154,154	83,556	70,598	2	2	.....
19	Pabna	1,420,461	709,396	711,065	357,118	177,538	179,580	2	1	1
	DACCA DIVISION ...	***10,793,988***	***5,473,289***	***5,320,699***	***3,524,811***	***1,784,293***	***1,740,518***	***7,274***	***3,791***	***3,483***
20	Dacca	2,649,522	1,312,417	1,337,105	988,296	487,384	500,912	30	26	4
21	Mymensingh	3,915,068	2,014,805	1,900,263	1,088,960	569,408	519,552	14	14	.....
22	Faridpur	1,937,646	970,164	967,482	733,638	360,052	373,586	10	10	.....
23	Backergunge	2,291,752	1,175,903	1,115,849	713,917	367,449	346,468	7,220	3,741	3,479
	CHITTAGONG DIVISION	***4,737,731***	***2,364,396***	***2,373,335***	***1,251,501***	***629,907***	***621,594***	***149,739***	***74,481***	***75,258***
24	Tippera	2,117,991	1,085,989	1,032,002	622,339	318,739	303,600	1,340	655	685
25	Noakhali	1,141,728	568,777	572,951	274,487	138,622	135,865	289	162	127
26	Chittagong	1,353,250	641,392	711,858	318,309	152,656	165,653	64,973	29,854	35,119
27	Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	124,762	68,238	56,524	36,366	19,890	16,476	83,137	43,810	39,327
	PATNA DIVISION ...	***15,514,987***	***7,468,314***	***8,046,673***	***13,719,848***	***6,638,366***	***7,081,482***	***33***	***28***	***5***
28	Patna	1,624,985	804,583	820,402	1,435,657	717,628	718,029	5	5	.....
29	Gaya	2,059,933	1,011,271	1,048,662	1,840,390	913,175	927,215	13	8	5
30	Shahabad	1,962,696	936,544	1,026,152	1,819,655	871,900	947,755	3	3	.....
31	Saran	2,409,509	1,095,288	1,314,221	2,124,653	969,732	1,154,921	.....	.....	.....
32	Champaran	1,790,463	885,607	904,856	1,523,950	755,432	768,518	7	7	.....
33	Muzaffarpur	2,754,790	1,318,547	1,436,243	2,416,415	1,162,123	1,254,292	.....	.....	.....
34	Darbhanga	2,912,611	1,416,474	1,496,137	2,559,128	1,248,376	1,310,752	5	5	.....
	BHAGALPUR DIVISION...	***8,736,318***	***4,331,579***	***4,394,739***	***6,279,570***	***3,118,233***	***3,161,337***	***41***	***41***	.....
35	Monghyr	2,068,804	1,011,580	1,057,224	1,867,920	917,515	950,405	1	1	.....
36	Bhagalpur	2,088,953	1,027,535	1,061,418	1,875,363	922,871	952,492	39	39	.....
37	Purnea	1,874,794	958,452	916,342	1,080,128	553,271	526,857	1	1	.....
38	Malda	884,030	437,639	446,391	440,400	221,240	219,160	.....	.....	.....
39	Sonthal Parganas ...	1,809,737	896,373	913,364	1,015,759	503,336	512,423	.....	.....	.....
	ORISSA DIVISION ...	***4,343,150***	***2,115,726***	***2,227,424***	***4,183,523***	***2,038,334***	***2,145,189***	***4***	***4***	.....
40	Cuttack	2,062,758	995,409	1,067,349	2,002,622	967,444	1,035,178	2	2	.....
41	Balasore	1,071,197	517,543	553,654	1,033,184	498,515	534,669	2	2	.....
42	Angul and Khondmals ...	191,911	95,935	95,976	148,799	74,627	74,172	.....	.....	.....
43	Puri	1,017,284	506,839	510,445	998,918	497,748	501,170	.....	.....	.....
	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION	***4,900,429***	***2,409,266***	***2,491,163***	***3,359,628***	***1,659,675***	***1,699,953***	***48***	***36***	***12***
44	Hazaribagh	1,177,961	570,122	607,839	954,129	460,584	493,545	15	15	.....
45	Ranchi	1,187,925	577,180	610,745	474,547	235,711	238,836	33	21	12
46	Palamau	619,600	306,203	313,397	533,182	263,561	269,621	.....	.....	.....
47	Manbhum	1,301,364	653,336	648,028	1,132,619	567,485	565,134	.....	.....	.....
48	Singhbhum	613,579	302,425	311,154	265,151	132,334	132,817	.....	.....	.....
	(2) ***Feudatory States*** ...	***3,748,544***	***1,901,404***	***1,847,140***	***2,949,872***	***1,492,110***	***1,457,772***	***27,265***	***14,334***	***12,931***
49	Cooch Behar	566,974	301,382	265,592	397,989	211,706	186,283	5	5	.....
50	Tributary States, Orissa ...	1,947,802	969,973	977,829	1,778,930	885,059	893,871	717	366	351
51	Ditto, Chota Nagpur	1,001,429	506,759	494,670	615,454	312,248	303,206	.....	.....	.....
52	Hill Tippera	173,325	92,495	80,830	119,193	63,148	56,045	5,999	3,200	2,799
53	Sikkim	59,014	30,795	28,219	38,306	19,939	18,367	20,544	10,763	9,781
	BRITISH SUBJECTS IN CHANDERNAGORE.	10,999	6,44	4,555	8,479	4,728	3,751	2	2	.....

* Hindu includes Brahmo males, 1,849; females, 1,322—total, 3,171.

RELIGIONS.

MUSALMAN.			CHRISTIAN.			ANIMISTIC.			†OTHERS (INCLUDING SIKH, JAIN, PARSI, JEW, AND MINOR).			Serial No.
Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	
25,495,416	*12,855,818*	*12,639,598*	*278,366*	*143,071*	*135,295*	*2,780,468*	*1,368,704*	*1,411,764*	*10,734*	*7,037*	*3,697*	
25,965,342	*12,732,970*	*12,532,372*	*275,125*	*141,382*	*133,743*	*2,242,770*	*1,098,633*	*1,144,137*	*10,340*	*6,675*	*3,665*	
1,084,820	*538,967*	*545,853*	*9,463*	*5,398*	*4,065*	*290,124*	*144,013*	*146,111*	*240*	*150*	*90*	
287,403	144,400	143,003	2,960	1,680	1,280	21,048	11,054	9,994	17	8	9	1
201,645	99,398	102,247	819	430	389	42,019	21,119	20,900	95	62	33	2
51,114	25,331	25,783	363	200	163	89,157	44,058	45,099	10	3	7	3
184,958	90,952	94,006	1,974	1,013	961	135,050	66,082	68,968	40	20	20	4
184,577	90,387	94,190	759	507	252	2,766	1,623	1,143	32	25	7	5
175,123	88,499	86,624	2,588	1,568	1,020	84	77	7	46	32	14	6
4,405,537	*2,282,044*	*2,123,493*	*62,416*	*34,705*	*27,711*	*12,849*	*6,478*	*6,364*	*4,800*	*2,806*	*1,994*	
753,260	393,792	359,468	13,822	7,726	6,096	966	535	431	27	22	5	7
249,939	174,117	75,822	37,925	21,535	16,390	.....	.....	.....	3,768	2,248	1,520	8
982,987	489,381	493,606	8,091	4,127	3,964	4	2	2	1	1	.....	9
676,899	328,928	347,971	391	198	193	11,396	5,693	5,703	998	530	468	10
1,110,236	566,064	544,172	912	438	474	64	31	33	3	3	.....	11
632,216	329,762	302,454	1,275	681	594	412	217	195	3	2	1	12
5,283,182	*2,697,297*	*2,585,885*	*8,742*	*4,561*	*4,181*	*88,588*	*45,950*	*42,638*	*2,240*	*1,910*	*330*	
1,135,202	570,153	565,049	351	182	169	1,653	849	804	53	41	12	13
776,737	406,359	370,378	779	406	373	62,913	32,432	30,481	222	166	56	14
228,487	122,105	106,382	2,486	1,291	1,195	15,236	8,146	7,090	244	229	15	15
9,227	5,846	3,381	4,467	2,315	2,152	3,431	1,774	1,657	64	50	14	16
1,371,430	708,105	663,325	453	245	208	4,292	2,213	2,079	1,307	1,163	144	17
699,185	353,152	346,033	40	21	19	1,063	536	527	89	82	7	18
1,062,914	531,577	531,337	166	101	65	.....	.....	.....	261	179	82	19
7,909,562	*3,658,918*	*3,550,644*	*23,079*	*11,340*	*11,739*	*28,959*	*14,678*	*14,281*	*303*	*269*	*34*	
1,849,639	819,587	830,052	11,556	5,419	6,137	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
2,795,548	1,422,764	1,365,784	1,291	679	612	28,958	14,677	14,281	297	263	34	21
1,199,361	607,688	591,663	4,641	2,408	2,233	.....	.....	.....	6	6	.....	22
1,565,024	801,879	763,145	5,591	2,834	2,757	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
3,333,326	*1,658,298*	*1,675,028*	*2,443*	*1,296*	*1,147*	*706*	*405*	*301*	*16*	*9*	*7*	
1,494,020	766,433	727,587	292	163	130	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
866,290	429,653	436,637	662	340	322	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
968,054	457,846	510,208	1,237	660	577	661	367	294	16	9	7	26
4,962	4,366	596	252	134	118	45	38	7	.....	.....	.....	27
1,786,707	*825,481*	*961,226*	*7,350*	*3,906*	*3,444*	*27*	*13*	*14*	*1,022*	*520*	*502*	
186,411	85,241	101,170	2,562	1,531	1,031	7	4	3	343	174	169	28
219,124	97,859	121,265	253	134	119	.....	.....	.....	153	95	58	29
142,213	64,217	77,996	375	218	157	.....	.....	.....	450	206	244	30
284,541	125,376	159,165	314	179	135	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	31
264,086	129,088	134,998	2,417	1,078	1,339	.....	.....	.....	3	2	1	32
337,841	156,629	181,612	719	387	332	.....	.....	.....	15	8	7	33
352,691	167,671	185,020	710	379	331	20	9	11	57	34	23	34
1,776,705	*881,206*	*895,499*	*12,695*	*6,411*	*6,284*	*656,585*	*325,182*	*331,403*	*722*	*506*	*216*	
196,760	91,925	104,835	1,433	811	622	2,686	1,326	1,360	4	2	2	35
209,311	102,376	106,935	775	437	338	3,060	1,537	1,523	405	275	130	36
793,672	404,578	389,094	439	251	188	295	156	139	259	195	64	37
424,969	206,883	218,086	173	99	74	18,476	9,409	9,067	12	8	4	38
151,993	75,444	76,549	9,875	4,813	5,062	632,068	312,754	319,314	42	26	16	39
103,350	*49,530*	*53,820*	*5,037*	*2,524*	*2,513*	*51,103*	*25,270*	*25,833*	*133*	*64*	*69*	
57,356	26,627	30,729	2,652	1,279	1,373	.....	.....	.....	126	57	69	40
28,340	14,098	14,242	1,274	673	601	8,393	4,251	4,142	4	4	.....	41
369	266	103	33	23	10	42,710	21,019	21,691	.....	.....	.....	42
17,285	8,539	8,746	1,078	549	529	.....	.....	.....	3	3	.....	43
282,153	*141,229*	*140,924*	*143,900*	*71,241*	*72,659*	*1,113,836*	*536,644*	*577,192*	*864*	*441*	*423*	
119,656	58,090	61,566	1,163	646	517	102,211	50,395	51,816	787	392	395	44
41,972	21,044	20,928	124,958	61,745	63,213	546,416	258,659	287,756	.....	.....	.....	45
52,353	25,853	26,500	7,908	3,891	4,017	26,111	12,874	13,237	46	24	22	46
62,799	33,143	29,656	2,910	1,496	1,414	103,011	51,191	51,820	25	21	4	47
5,373	3,099	2,274	6,961	3,463	3,498	336,088	163,525	172,563	6	4	2	48
230,074	*122,848*	*107,226*	*3,241*	*1,689*	*1,552*	*537,698*	*270,071*	*267,627*	*394*	*362*	*32*	
168,236	89,135	79,101	143	86	57	226	103	123	375	347	28	49
7,880	4,438	3,442	950	494	456	159,321	79,612	79,709	4	4	.....	50
8,614	4,521	4,093	1,876	968	908	375,478	189,019	186,459	7	3	4	51
45,323	24,734	20,589	137	76	61	2,673	1,337	1,336	.....	.....	.....	52
21	20	1	135	65	70	.....	.....	.....	8	8	.....	53
2,182	1,521	661	236	94	142	98	98	.....	2	1	1	

Total number of Sikhs 340—Male 246, Female 94; Jains 7,831—Male 5,422, Female 2,409; Parsis 389—Male 241, Female 148; Jews 1,946—Male 947, Female 999; Minor 226—Male 181, Female 47.

TABLE IV.—AGE, SEX

DISTRICTS.	ALL AGES.						0—5.			
	UNMARRIED.		MARRIED.		WIDOWED.		UNMARRIED.		MARRIED.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
BENGAL	***18,746,505***	***12,463,998***	***18,938,702***	***18,957,127***	***1,592,979***	***7,794,099***	***5,158,770***	***5,461,335***	***53,391***	***122,701***
(1) ***British Territory***	***17,747,071***	***11,701,711***	***18,103,648***	***18,151,092***	***1,526,063***	***7,515,281***	***4,904,167***	***5,181,466***	***52,580***	***120,931***
BURDWAN DIVISION	***1,990,418***	***1,083,266***	***1,944,346***	***1,943,676***	***182,188***	***1,096,182***	***491,377***	***513,995***	***1,074***	***3,775***
Burdwan	343,067	185,731	379,951	366,049	41,724	215,953	87,682	92,209	269	834
Birbhum	197,503	125,801	225,457	222,710	21,329	109,080	57,851	62,254	229	821
Bankura	284,605	160,608	242,969	268,483	21,910	137,836	75,783	75,052	92	729
Midnapore	714,802	380,030	622,455	657,661	52,976	361,190	162,844	172,603	320	941
Hooghly	241,846	120,236	257,612	236,258	28,821	164,509	56,189	57,987	96	270
Howrah	208,195	110,860	215,902	192,515	15,428	107,614	51,028	53,890	68	180
PRESIDENCY DIVISION	***2,217,349***	***1,202,931***	***2,294,020***	***2,020,321***	***192,493***	***1,065,914***	***571,191***	***596,914***	***1,559***	***6,081***
24-Parganas	501,144	275,898	552,597	483,663	39,175	225,882	135,984	144,758	346	1,461
Calcutta	179,562	73,366	358,336	131,816	24,698	80,018	31,303	28,612	190	211
Nadia	435,894	236,017	362,849	333,603	28,766	220,382	112,667	117,214	165	535
Murshidabad	330,672	194,968	299,671	309,185	23,003	175,685	93,245	97,332	347	1,240
Jessore	450,191	238,453	416,107	423,564	47,727	237,113	114,344	118,074	318	1,676
Khulna	319,886	184,229	304,460	288,490	29,124	126,854	83,648	90,924	193	958
RAJSHAHI DIVISION	***2,235,696***	***1,404,680***	***1,997,846***	***1,904,523***	***159,856***	***792,558***	***592,649***	***636,803***	***2,413***	***6,695***
Rajshahi	369,306	224,232	349,260	342,495	23,124	153,990	98,964	107,463	279	975
Dinajpur	420,866	267,935	369,315	347,563	33,791	127,610	109,848	118,131	595	1,166
Jalpaiguri	218,977	138,935	182,678	164,645	21,222	60,923	52,446	54,570	281	575
Darjeeling	68,059	52,317	60,017	52,163	4,929	11,632	17,385	17,294	24	58
Rangpur	576,175	329,461	504,513	476,448	44,421	223,163	151,091	161,803	563	2,186
Bogra	210,100	149,371	211,205	202,201	15,344	65,612	62,351	68,792	311	742
Pabna	372,213	242,429	320,158	319,008	17,025	149,628	100,564	108,750	360	993
DACCA DIVISION	***2,890,933***	***1,881,759***	***2,416,551***	***2,441,143***	***165,805***	***997,797***	***783,484***	***830,763***	***2,687***	***8,535***
Dacca	710,930	487,382	565,665	593,948	35,822	255,775	196,376	208,431	488	1,314
Mymensingh	1,106,008	724,121	855,696	847,131	53,101	329,011	287,058	308,854	804	1,467
Faridpur	498,203	297,611	439,832	458,420	32,129	211,451	137,333	143,619	664	2,511
Backergunge	575,792	372,645	555,358	541,644	44,753	201,560	162,717	169,859	731	3,243
CHITTAGONG DIVISION	***1,357,750***	***962,967***	***949,227***	***1,028,946***	***57,419***	***381,422***	***364,437***	***377,852***	***859***	***1,919***
Tippera	596,985	416,520	464,666	459,527	24,338	155,955	157,984	169,483	499	1,069
Noakhali	325,191	233,475	228,906	255,847	14,689	83,629	93,601	95,383	212	496
Chittagong	399,591	285,037	226,994	289,056	15,707	137,765	103,277	103,589	126	331
Chittagong Hill Tracts	35,983	27,935	29,661	24,516	2,694	4,073	9,575	9,397	15	23
PATNA DIVISION	***2,938,310***	***2,155,471***	***4,128,780***	***4,352,876***	***401,224***	***1,538,326***	***918,792***	***963,505***	***29,299***	***61,578***
Patna	298,981	205,912	452,457	447,163	53,145	167,327	87,851	94,654	1,662	2,745
Gaya	398,775	298,418	551,171	559,320	61,325	190,924	125,126	131,288	2,599	8,499
Shahabad	400,435	303,411	486,778	507,209	49,331	215,532	122,764	130,393	2,155	2,870
Saran	538,985	425,654	506,106	624,344	50,197	264,223	146,114	158,624	606	1,454
Champaran	389,936	290,816	449,057	458,502	46,614	155,538	105,418	112,981	1,365	3,890
Muzaffarpur	496,221	351,149	757,689	809,257	64,537	275,837	161,172	168,183	5,624	10,933
Darbhanga	414,977	280,111	925,522	947,081	75,975	268,945	170,347	167,152	15,288	32,187
BHAGALPUR DIVISION	***1,823,365***	***1,298,005***	***2,304,268***	***2,293,400***	***203,946***	***803,334***	***568,677***	***604,110***	***12,577***	***27,035***
Monghyr	369,792	250,815	591,166	617,498	50,622	188,911	127,840	131,011	3,717	7,989
Bhagalpur	341,329	240,822	630,337	627,245	55,869	193,351	124,174	131,546	6,319	11,362
Purnea	442,050	301,940	454,659	423,890	54,743	190 512	115,050	127,579	1,159	4,310
Malda	219,380	147,824	204,154	196,870	14,105	101,697	64,842	68,251	260	673
Sonthal Parganas	443,814	356,604	423,952	427,897	28,607	128,863	136,771	145,723	1,122	2,701
ORISSA DIVISION	***1,087,811***	***762,236***	***952,494***	***1,012,287***	***75,421***	***452,901***	***276,894***	***291,758***	***50***	***193***
Cuttack	522,863	371,457	438,400	478,244	34,146	217,848	135,122	142,045	30	78
Balasore	259,945	173,689	239,577	257,576	18,021	122,389	66,826	74,262	8	45
Angul and Khondmals	50,165	39,919	42,860	42,576	2,910	13,481	13,178	13,665	4	...
Puri	254,838	177,171	231,657	233,891	20,344	99,383	61,768	65,786	8	...
CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION	***1,205,439***	***950,396***	***1,116,116***	***1,153,920***	***87,711***	***386,847***	***336,666***	***365,766***	***2,069***	***5,190***
Hazaribagh	252,720	194,956	290,639	312,754	26,753	100,129	76,414	86,001	1,066	2,825
Ranchi	315,836	263,981	242,300	255,830	19,044	90,934	88,239	95,665	339	611
Palamau	145,396	115,954	149,161	150,359	11,646	47,104	45,024	49,569	372	613
Manbhum	311,208	219,423	319,711	319,132	22,417	109,473	84,515	90,354	255	1,022
Singhbhum	180,269	156,102	114,305	115,845	7,851	39,207	42,474	43,577	37	119
(2) ***Feudatory States***	***999,434***	***762,287***	***835,054***	***806,035***	***66,916***	***278,818***	***254,603***	***279,869***	***811***	***1,770***
Cooch Behar	157,839	85,909	123,272	112,170	20,271	67,513	37,855	39,321	82	507
Tributary States, Orissa	504,484	403,593	437,373	430,113	28,116	144,123	126,778	139,466	25	63
Ditto, Chota Nagpur	273,564	225,782	218,881	213,524	14,314	55,364	72,904	83,193	668	1,129
Hill Tippera	47,935	35,223	41,007	35,777	3,553	9,830	13,304	12,730	17	44
Sikkim	15,612	11,780	14,521	14,451	662	1,988	3,762	3,659	19	27

		5—10						10—15					
Widowed.		Unmarried.		Married.		Widowed.		Unmarried.		Married.		Widowed.	
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
2,223	*9,793*	*5,619,020*	*4,881,486*	*342,318*	*914,427*	*12,011*	*45,492*	*4,103,422*	*1,602,510*	*770,073*	*2,276,010*	*25,992*	*102,580*
2,181	*9,567*	*5,323,977*	*4,600,843*	*338,208*	*895,779*	*11,908*	*44,627*	*3,874,306*	*1,465,560*	*751,420*	*2,212,394*	*25,612*	*100,056*
41	*368*	*569,102*	*455,453*	*6,003*	*99,706*	*214*	*4,068*	*465,831*	*89,942*	*36,372*	*289,902*	*682*	*15,971*
13	124	97,620	73,751	1,307	22,246	71	827	79,695	16,225	8,235	52,385	181	3,004
18	67	66,187	52,148	1,137	13,020	23	353	42,775	8,986	7,264	31,339	127	1,124
.....	27	82,359	66,865	598	16,401	15	481	66,445	15,215	4,825	39,439	46	1,857
2	103	203,496	164,274	2,014	31,226	70	1,483	165,536	31,742	9,678	95,730	189	5,469
3	34	63,126	50,434	557	9,766	25	544	60,505	9,723	3,165	39,206	65	2,617
5	13	56,314	47,981	390	7,047	10	380	50,875	8,051	3,205	31,804	74	1,900
53	*784*	*624,152*	*484,824*	*8,736*	*96,248*	*438*	*4,852*	*503,565*	*94,500*	*42,226*	*307,709*	*1,363*	*14,620*
10	131	147,456	108,146	2,220	25,074	71	1,169	114,870	17,763	11,931	71,726	295	3,903
1	38	30,658	26,247	990	1,383	69	176	35,044	10,871	5,345	12,665	209	768
11	59	124,487	97,539	712	17,648	47	719	105,704	18,438	4,116	63,570	107	2,570
13	184	102,937	80,940	1,089	16,247	65	745	75,981	13,487	6,170	49,588	172	2,280
14	192	124,933	95,777	2,188	20,029	111	942	101,300	19,770	7,797	62,631	354	3,029
4	180	93,681	76,175	1,537	14,367	75	801	70,666	14,171	6,867	47,529	226	2,071
156	*947*	*714,141*	*604,201*	*8,997*	*77,388*	*457*	*3,910*	*454,215*	*123,576*	*38,221*	*237,551*	*989*	*8,887*
11	136	122,358	98,293	1,397	18,971	50	671	86,279	15,637	6,858	47,502	214	2,088
41	136	140,892	118,725	2,285	11,985	117	655	76,366	24,095	9,663	37,670	276	1,384
14	102	62,900	55,293	871	4,076	50	270	42,612	19,671	2,354	14,332	83	570
1	10	15,805	14,916	155	220	13	13	13,737	11,340	638	1,971	24	72
26	301	178,260	141,357	1,888	25,472	135	1,260	108,594	20,758	7,824	66,306	177	2,462
13	74	75,481	67,715	1,395	7,608	58	461	42,304	10,267	6,697	26,796	146	821
50	188	118,645	107,902	1,006	9,056	34	580	84,323	21,808	4,187	42,974	69	1,490
97	*1,031*	*851,745*	*786,682*	*10,199*	*74,083*	*518*	*4,128*	*653,829*	*227,261*	*41,557*	*324,922*	*1,280*	*11,898*
34	256	208,424	199,602	1,568	12,006	112	822	168,923	69,251	7,843	74,614	198	2,731
30	253	338,637	319,055	2,502	19,173	107	1,112	233,621	80,366	10,388	102,602	176	3,702
14	233	140,162	116,663	2,477	22,395	101	955	120,823	32,442	9,648	73,707	325	2,921
19	290	164,522	151,362	3,652	20,509	198	1,239	130,462	45,202	13,678	73,999	581	2,544
22	*320*	*401,872*	*391,200*	*2,376*	*13,576*	*124*	*1,140*	*316,919*	*165,332*	*8,602*	*99,224*	*199*	*3,503*
10	132	177,048	172,275	1,402	8,094	66	556	136,185	64,792	5,197	48,191	80	1,495
9	89	99,061	95,918	599	3,701	40	307	76,121	37,895	2,221	27,498	77	1,029
3	95	116,081	113,928	348	1,747	17	266	97,277	56,793	1,104	23,198	38	984
.....	4	9,682	9,079	27	34	1	11	7,336	5,852	80	337	4	5
1,176	*3,811*	*896,149*	*767,778*	*191,794*	*292,368*	*6,521*	*15,190*	*590,223*	*300,072*	*341,900*	*467,700*	*12,586*	*22,484*
73	216	87,930	76,025	10,132	18,146	316	818	59,367	26,820	29,531	44,801	934	1,951
109	339	122,858	104,037	15,500	28,093	406	1,965	77,950	36,231	41,558	64,146	1,040	2,326
93	328	117,264	104,316	12,563	19,517	327	978	82,259	42,392	42,056	59,449	901	1,935
25	151	172,478	164,954	5,613	11,560	163	603	127,128	81,541	27,468	48,600	611	1,749
86	225	117,119	108,884	7,996	19,607	503	891	89,301	49,632	27,167	43,222	805	1,948
186	957	156,125	126,470	42,867	65,370	1,448	3,325	92,502	43,251	72,199	92,652	2,747	4,823
604	1,604	122,375	83,082	97,118	130,075	3,358	6,610	61,716	20,205	101,921	114,330	5,548	7,852
512	*1,851*	*604,542*	*486,758*	*89,458*	*181,560*	*3,114*	*9,388*	*354,468*	*147,211*	*167,581*	*282,999*	*6,793*	*15,408*
112	517	121,799	88,343	26,756	49,989	873	2,198	65,751	22,222	55,050	80,025	1,890	3,153
235	565	120,885	83,949	46,187	76,336	1,402	3,613	56,530	17,915	65,435	84,695	2,900	4,692
91	395	142,826	121,711	8,332	27,082	536	1,968	90,779	37,018	19,237	45,671	1,177	3,686
11	122	69,859	60,713	1,051	7,971	60	532	47,573	15,455	5,371	26,088	211	1,726
63	252	149,173	132,043	7,132	20,182	243	1,077	93,835	54,601	22,488	46,520	615	2,151
.....	*6*	*279,441*	*269,434*	*1,919*	*11,213*	*19*	*339*	*257,841*	*160,853*	*11,455*	*78,817*	*145*	*2,421*
.....	6	130,736	127,316	795	3,776	5	150	124,009	81,753	4,509	33,770	61	1,100
.....	.....	70,290	64,487	760	5,470	5	165	61,844	32,113	4,242	25,091	54	872
.....	.....	14,837	14,425	160	888	1	7	11,336	7,829	1,020	3,416	13	76
.....	.....	63,578	63,206	204	1,079	1	17	60,652	39,158	1,684	16,540	17	373
124	*449*	*382,833*	*354,513*	*18,726*	*49,637*	*510*	*1,919*	*277,415*	*156,813*	*63,506*	*123,570*	*1,575*	*4,864*
65	175	80,878	74,380	9,377	21,257	263	742	55,575	25,918	23,434	40,834	699	1,753
20	122	102,069	98,850	1,697	4,325	75	310	77,645	50,663	28,907	21,235	237	696
27	67	49,685	44,388	3,001	6,201	102	258	31,409	17,488	10,645	17,404	351	644
9	70	99,236	88,468	4,267	16,127	57	554	70,983	31,273	18,578	37,778	253	1,564
3	15	50,965	48,427	384	1,727	13	48	41,803	31,471	1,942	6,319	36	207
42	*226*	*295,043*	*280,643*	*4,110*	*18,648*	*103*	*865*	*229,116*	*136,950*	*18,653*	*63,616*	*380*	*2,524*
2	42	44,609	39,291	350	7,234	37	364	30,173	5,447	1,428	15,564	57	813
.....	1	145,983	144,778	1,909	6,509	13	166	120,131	81,353	9,491	29,097	110	890
39	178	86,540	79,669	1,752	4,535	50	299	65,393	41,382	7,175	15,729	201	14
1	5	13,986	13,342	57	279	2	31	9,866	6,162	284	2,760	11	96
.....	.....	3,925	3,563	42	91	1	5	3,553	2,606	275	466	1	11

TABLE IV.—AGE, SEX

DISTRICTS.	15—20.						20—40.			
	UNMARRIED.		MARRIED.		WIDOWED.		UNMARRIED.		MARRIED.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
BENGAL	***2,044,134***	***272,424***	***1,276,951***	***3,048,347***	***41,738***	***193,107***	***1,627,457***	***191,182***	***9,978,723***	***9,888,167***
(1) ***British Territory***	***1,926,784***	***230,872***	***1,230,543***	***2,928,319***	***40,554***	***186,635***	***1,531,948***	***171,073***	***9,512,471***	***9,418,089***
BURDWAN DIVISION	***249,335***	***12,182***	***127,975***	***362,383***	***2,145***	***36,243***	***187,004***	***8,978***	***1,066,384***	***952,812***
Burdwan	40,891	1,686	26,298	63,914	513	6,049	31,246	1,424	207,201	176,329
Birbhum	16,969	1,202	17,997	36,627	323	2,318	11,612	950	120,892	111,104
Bankura	32,823	2,176	17,734	47,301	206	4,582	24,153	1,079	128,263	127,963
Midnapore	96,034	5,742	38,326	130,448	572	12,905	76,295	4,229	343,938	329,002
Hooghly	34,417	915	13,797	45,955	255	6,036	24 111	907	146,720	115,510
Howrah	28,201	468	13,123	38,138	276	4,353	19,587	389	121,460	92,904
PRESIDENCY DIVISION	***273,450***	***10,577***	***129,732***	***359,262***	***3,721***	***31,034***	***221,075***	***12,408***	***1,276,916***	***1,006,100***
24-Parganas	57,992	2,698	36,491	87,245	695	8,421	40,092	2,041	302,282	232,150
Calcutta	31,932	2,793	19,306	21,480	726	2,301	44,929	3,650	218,530	71,082
Nadia	52,096	973	16,174	64,809	338	5,105	37,099	1,504	195,317	192,727
Murshidabad	36,522	1,173	18,797	53,971	462	4,092	19,582	1,437	166,002	152,431
Jessore	56,696	1,833	20,583	72,371	966	6,280	48,998	2,375	227,420	220,768
Khulna	38,212	1,107	18,381	59,386	534	4,835	30,375	1,401	167,365	136,942
RAJSHAHI DIVISION	***232,636***	***18,903***	***99,872***	***342,170***	***2,801***	***17,839***	***224,105***	***17,385***	***1,139,026***	***1,058,266***
Rajshahi	35,840	948	19,079	60,092	562	3,365	24,087	1,484	204,498	185,849
Dinajpur	46,212	3,345	18,811	65,189	755	2,920	44,422	2,903	209,751	199,376
Jalpaiguri	25,111	4,564	7,266	25,705	282	1,534	33,377	4,291	102,441	96,983
Darjeeling	9,955	5,761	2,408	5,392	89	167	10,453	2,682	36,446	33,905
Rangpur	60,089	1,919	22,852	88,811	570	5,526	72,391	2,822	285,413	256,842
Bogra	16,912	952	14,261	39,836	292	1,527	12,006	1,237	120,265	108,940
Pabna	38,517	1,414	16,165	57,145	251	2,800	27,419	1,966	180,212	174,471
DACCA DIVISION	***337,109***	***15,727***	***125,810***	***489,148***	***2,827***	***26,379***	***243,514***	***16,515***	***1,360,284***	***1,290,978***
Dacca	81,580	4,381	28,005	116,495	530	6,515	50,473	4,059	317,253	320,907
Mymensingh	130,596	7,366	41,864	176,397	817	9,555	107,854	6,925	495,641	465,702
Faridpur	55,293	1,731	23,964	84,210	515	5,521	40,610	2,475	242,212	229,025
Backergunge	69,640	2,249	31,977	112,046	965	4,788	44,577	3,056	305,178	275,344
CHITTAGONG DIVISION	***168,243***	***17,500***	***37,835***	***206,121***	***658***	***11,389***	***99,702***	***8,795***	***529,391***	***582,009***
Tippera	73,972	5,704	20,746	92,014	283	4,593	48,759	3,380	266,582	258,096
Noakhali	37,855	2,532	10,314	53,261	239	2,985	17,271	1,294	124,892	140,339
Chittagong	51,099	6,498	5,970	57,700	112	3,735	29,848	3,394	120,875	168,118
Chittagong Hill Tracts	5,317	2,766	805	3,146	24	76	3,824	727	17,132	15,456
PATNA DIVISION	***240,769***	***53,041***	***362,296***	***514,271***	***15,590***	***26,824***	***239,773***	***51,750***	***1,918,016***	***2,205,607***
Patna	25,671	4,299	37,267	53,993	1,442	2,924	30,353	2,850	219,626	232,969
Gaya	31,343	7,262	49,980	71,190	1,802	3,340	33,516	14,436	268,764	288,470
Shahabad	33,940	9,002	48,458	65,920	1,526	3,308	36,685	13,325	246,120	276,985
Saran	49,217	13,595	42,793	72,376	1,186	3,527	36,722	5,218	249,021	359,824
Champaran	36,145	9,656	33,854	54,101	1,317	3,132	35,381	7,510	230,003	249,707
Muzaffarpur	37,622	6,478	67,791	93,119	3,168	4,809	40,997	4,275	331,351	389,883
Darbhanga	26,831	2,749	82,153	103,572	5,249	5,634	26,139	4,136	373,131	407,769
BHAGALPUR DIVISION	***153,433***	***31,015***	***202,196***	***314,613***	***9,243***	***20,006***	***125,515***	***21,530***	***1,125,034***	***1,133,988***
Monghyr	24,733	4,037	56,278	71,370	2,121	3,360	24,398	3,304	264,384	292,810
Bhagalpur	18,784	3,178	60,635	76,621	3,089	4,431	17,066	3,350	286,706	289,607
Purnea	49,053	6,444	30,843	65,214	2,352	5,050	47,505	6,447	237,202	229,410
Malda	22,707	1,812	15,948	38,344	519	3,471	13,220	1,236	115,439	102,237
Sonthal Parganas	38,156	15,484	38,492	63,064	1,162	3,694	23,326	7,193	221,253	219,924
ORISSA DIVISION	***156,032***	***30,510***	***43,939***	***171,130***	***564***	***7,540***	***110,241***	***7,616***	***520,201***	***569,975***
Cuttack	78,062	15,605	19,255	82,459	234	3,571	51,815	3,621	237,504	268,461
Balasore	35,253	4,800	13,801	46,515	164	2,408	24,166	1,550	133,273	140,907
Angul and Khondmals	5,768	3,070	2,383	5,271	58	279	4,792	892	24,294	25,491
Puri	36,949	7,035	8,500	36,885	108	1,282	29,468	1,553	125,130	135,116
CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION	***115,777***	***41,417***	***101,588***	***169,221***	***3,005***	***9,381***	***81,019***	***26,096***	***577,219***	***618,354***
Hazaribagh	20,484	5,561	28,152	41,451	923	2,281	16,695	2,424	141,847	161,525
Ranchi	29,417	11,890	18,897	33,129	545	1,619	16,457	5,560	127,760	146,524
Palamau	10 531	2,813	13,135	19,807	559	985	7,905	1,367	80,652	84,483
Manbhum	32,282	5,404	34,135	58,513	826	3,691	19,933	2,570	163,814	156,128
Singhbhum	23,063	15,749	7,269	16,321	152	805	20,029	13,875	63,146	69,694
Feudatory States	***117,350***	***41,552***	***46,408***	***120,028***	***1,184***	***6,472***	***95,509***	***20,109***	***466,252***	***470,078***
Cooch Behar	19,407	747	5,284	28,413	161	2,521	23,684	468	69,673	56,863
Tributary States, Orissa	63,730	26,148	24,626	63,342	460	2,366	44,903	10,575	244,382	256,239
Ditto, Chota Nagpur	26,392	12,170	14,003	24,809	513	1,238	20,226	7,911	119,936	127,907
Hill Tippera	5,696	1,427	1,648	6,870	32	327	4,775	486	24,733	21,047
Sikkim	2,125	1,060	847	1,594	18	20	1,921	675	7,528	8,022

		40—60.						60 AND OVER.					
WIDOWED.		UNMARRIED.		MARRIED.		WIDOWED.		UNMARRIED.		MARRIED.		WIDOWED.	
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
452,315	*2,149,932*	*157,399*	*43,411*	*5,215,494*	*2,418,410*	*634,870*	*3,368,880*	*36,303*	*11,650*	*1,301,752*	*289,065*	*423,830*	*1,924,315*
431,488	*2,075,427*	*150,937*	*40,992*	*4,968,419*	*2,298,734*	*606,712*	*3,243,621*	*34,952*	*10,905*	*1,250,007*	*276,846*	*407,608*	*1,855,348*
40,638	*328,494*	*22,855*	*2,081*	*578,793*	*213,622*	*87,564*	*477,834*	*4,914*	*635*	*128,445*	*21,476*	*50,904*	*233,204*
8,613	61,512	5,003	325	114,182	44,773	21,112	99,232	930	111	22,459	5,568	11,221	45,205
4,933	28,639	2,017	207	62,794	27,265	9,949	49,828	492	54	15,234	2,534	5,956	26,751
4,800	38,739	2,574	178	73,734	33,545	10,359	59,870	468	43	17,723	3,106	6,484	32,280
12,059	116,865	8,518	1,081	185,601	64,197	25,763	150,573	2,079	359	42,578	6,117	14,321	73,792
6,220	50,315	3,041	214	82,142	23,753	13,997	73,402	457	53	16,135	1,798	8,258	31,561
4,013	32,424	1,702	76	60,340	20,089	6,384	44,929	488	15	14,316	2,353	4,666	23,615
50,109	*321,788*	*19,785*	*2,853*	*667,010*	*219,561*	*82,403*	*466,894*	*4,131*	*855*	*167,841*	*25,360*	*54,406*	*226,242*
10,084	69,749	3,922	370	151,564	58,071	16,501	95,484	828	122	47,763	7,036	11,569	47,025
8,303	25,397	4,915	918	96,546	21,390	10,638	34,878	781	275	17,429	3,005	4,662	16,460
5,801	62,107	3,060	271	117,209	39,886	12,943	99,046	781	78	29,156	4,428	9,519	50,756
5,254	48,751	1,925	465	84,966	32,676	9,603	77,220	480	134	22,300	3,032	7,434	42,413
12,511	74,344	3,202	477	130,180	41,424	20,875	108,474	718	147	27,621	4,665	12,896	43,853
8,116	41,440	2,761	352	86,545	26,114	11,843	51,792	543	99	23,572	3,194	8,326	25,735
54,289	*240,823*	*14,857*	*3,006*	*571,428*	*166,507*	*62,165*	*351,937*	*3,093*	*806*	*137,889*	*15,946*	*38,999*	*168,215*
8,422	45,845	1,496	318	95,969	26,999	8,415	70,830	332	89	21,180	2,107	5,450	31,055
13,126	39,159	2,595	607	104,942	29,652	12,684	58,768	531	129	23,268	2,525	6,792	24,588
7,353	19,676	2,136	420	55,788	18,734	8,625	25,615	395	126	13,677	2,240	4,815	13,156
1,833	3,177	788	241	16,567	9,002	1,876	4,952	141	83	3,779	1,715	1,093	3,241
14,178	73,297	4,839	645	149,678	34,007	18,284	96,745	911	157	36,265	2,824	11,051	43,572
4,777	19,290	961	334	55,092	16,769	5,905	28,745	185	74	13,884	1,510	4,153	14,694
4,600	40,379	2,147	441	93,392	31,344	6,376	66,282	598	148	25,836	3,925	5,645	37,909
47,689	*282,915*	*16,948*	*3,790*	*680,904*	*232,739*	*61,954*	*426,723*	*4,304*	*1,021*	*195,110*	*20,738*	*51,440*	*244,723*
9,204	70,922	4,064	1,347	161,672	62,710	13,316	108,411	1,090	311	48,836	5,902	12,428	66,118
17,545	95,690	6,770	1,180	238,367	74,664	20,147	140,159	1,472	375	66,130	7,126	14,279	78,540
8,084	61,521	3,035	539	124,349	42,542	11,992	88,719	947	142	36,518	4,030	11,098	51,582
12,856	54,782	3,079	724	156,516	52,823	16,499	89,434	795	193	43,626	3,680	13,635	48,483
15,434	*103,617*	*4,942*	*1,727*	*287,240*	*116,760*	*20,948*	*166,307*	*1,635*	*561*	*82,931*	*9,337*	*20,034*	*95,146*
6,714	43,653	2,254	691	132,736	47,873	8,678	68,053	783	195	37,504	4,190	8,507	37,483
3,827	22,192	903	350	69,287	28,570	5,050	35,147	379	103	21,471	1,983	5,438	21,880
4,107	37,145	1,608	621	76,133	35,499	6,270	61,572	401	214	21,538	2,463	5,160	33,968
786	627	177	65	9,084	4,818	950	1,535	72	49	2,418	702	929	1,815
114,532	*373,174*	*42,327*	*15,519*	*1,013,649*	*702,581*	*148,470*	*643,124*	*10,277*	*3,806*	*271,826*	*108,771*	*102,349*	*453,719*
15,220	39,566	6,356	921	120,395	81,786	20,760	69,351	1,453	313	33,844	12,723	14,400	52,501
17,335	46,972	6,439	4,232	137,723	86,322	24,940	80,561	1,543	932	35,047	12,600	15,693	55,430
15,489	57,526	6,094	3,274	108,667	71,687	19,387	93,161	1,449	709	26,754	10,781	11,708	58,206
12,632	67,107	5,773	1,109	138,854	112,790	19,858	112,243	1,553	413	41,751	17,740	15,722	78,843
15,261	39,136	5,190	1,595	118,817	76,722	17,696	64,263	1,382	548	29,855	12,253	10,946	46,038
18,271	62,266	6,239	2,080	184,187	135,320	21,414	112,421	1,564	412	53,670	21,960	17,403	87,176
20,324	60,601	6,236	2,308	205,006	137,954	24,415	111,119	1,333	479	50,905	20,694	16,477	75,525
67,133	*220,331*	*13,279*	*5,894*	*566,655*	*309,402*	*72,008*	*323,473*	*3,451*	*1,487*	*140,767*	*43,803*	*45,143*	*212,877*
16,074	44,636	4,118	1,504	148,082	101,509	17,032	75,885	1,153	334	36,899	13,806	12,520	59,162
16,064	49,317	3,101	688	133,572	78,325	19,121	77,646	789	196	31,483	10,299	11,058	53,087
19,771	60,494	3,129	2,288	131,656	46,084	20,980	79,270	708	453	26,230	6,119	9,836	39,649
4,913	32,900	926	255	51,365	19,337	4,782	40,615	253	103	14,670	2,220	3,609	22,331
8,311	32,984	2,005	1,159	101,980	64,147	10,093	50,057	548	401	31,485	11,359	8,120	38,648
15,241	*98,553*	*6,069*	*1,605*	*309,646*	*167,598*	*34,627*	*216,372*	*1,293*	*460*	*65,284*	*13,431*	*24,832*	*127,670*
6,576	46,265	2,560	874	144,195	82,640	15,495	101,450	559	243	32,112	7,060	11,775	65,106
3,639	29,347	1,307	371	73,009	36,650	8,479	59,254	259	106	14,454	2,898	5,680	30,343
1,088	3,279	206	26	12,485	6,853	1,090	6,292	48	12	2,514	657	660	3,548
3,938	19,662	1,996	334	79,957	41,455	9,563	49,376	427	99	16,174	2,816	6,717	28,673
26,423	*105,732*	*9,875*	*4,517*	*293,094*	*169,964*	*36,573*	*170,957*	*1,854*	*1,274*	*59,914*	*17,984*	*19,501*	*93,552*
7,707	28,241	2,381	495	73,888	41,344	11,504	44,555	303	177	13,875	3,518	5,592	22,382
6,012	23,787	1,561	996	69,706	44,954	7,667	40,618	448	357	14,994	5,052	4,488	23,782
4,224	13,588	688	211	35,266	19,848	4,223	21,402	154	98	6,090	2,003	2,160	10,160
6,125	29,630	3,715	348	79,788	44,198	9,533	46,519	544	106	18,874	5,366	5,614	27,445
2,355	10,486	1,530	2,467	34,446	19,620	3,646	17,863	405	536	7,081	2,045	1,647	9,783
20,827	*74,505*	*6,462*	*2,419*	*247,075*	*119,676*	*28,158*	*125,259*	*1,351*	*745*	*51,745*	*12,219*	*16,222*	*68,967*
5,759	27,262	1,835	103	37,626	7,765	9,339	26,533	276	32	8,829	824	4,916	9,978
8,437	30,528	2,541	1,023	132,047	69,316	12,030	70,171	418	250	24,893	5,547	7,066	40,001
5,268	13,568	1,589	1,085	61,739	34,845	5,235	23,854	520	372	13,608	4,570	3,008	15,513
1,211	2,817	253	67	11,493	4,336	1,342	3,949	55	15	2,775	441	954	2,605
152	330	244	141	4,170	3,414	212	752	82	76	1,640	837	278	870

TABLE V.—

District.	Population.								
	Total.			Literate.			Illiterate.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.
BENGAL	*78,493,410*	*39,278,186*	*39,215,224*	*4,307,474*	*4,097,574*	*209,900*	*74,185,936*	*35,180,612*	*39,005,324*
British Territory	*74,744,866*	*37,376,782*	*37,368,084*	*4,194,361*	*3,988,607*	*205,754*	*70,550,505*	*33,388,175*	*37,162,330*
BURDWAN DIVISION	*8,240,076*	*4,116,952*	*4,123,124*	*808,709*	*774,879*	*33,830*	*7,431,367*	*3,342,073*	*4,089,294*
Burdwan	1,532,475	764,742	767,733	130,288	123,871	6,417	1,402,187	640,871	761,316
Birbhum	902,280	444,689	457,591	70,047	68,145	1,902	832,233	376,544	455,689
Bankura	1,116,411	549,484	566,927	103,679	100,578	3,101	1,012,732	448,906	563,826
Midnapore	2,789,114	1,390,233	1,398,881	295,064	284,864	10,200	2,494,050	1,105,369	1,388,681
Hooghly	1,049,282	528,279	521,003	111,630	104,310	7,320	937,652	423,969	513,683
Howrah	850,514	439,525	410,989	98,001	93,111	4,890	752,513	346,414	406,099
PRESIDENCY DIVISION	*8,993,028*	*4,703,862*	*4,289,166*	*801,401*	*735,849*	*65,552*	*8,191,627*	*3,968,013*	*4,223,614*
24-Parganas	2,078,359	1,092,916	985,443	232,620	220,211	12,409	1,845,739	872,705	973,034
Calcutta	847,796	562,596	285,200	210,443	177,687	32,756	637,353	384,909	252,444
Nadia	1,667,491	827,509	839,982	93,375	86,107	7,268	1,574,116	741,402	832,714
Murshidabad	1,333,184	653,346	679,838	73,476	69,549	3,927	1,259,708	583,797	675,911
Jessore	1,813,155	914,025	899,130	105,102	100,971	4,131	1,708,053	813,054	894,999
Khulna	1,253,043	653,470	599,573	86,385	81,324	5,061	1,166,658	572,146	594,512
RAJSHAHI DIVISION	*8,495,159*	*4,393,398*	*4,101,761*	*378,430*	*364,710*	*13,720*	*8,116,729*	*4,028,688*	*4,088,041*
Rajshahi	1,462,407	741,690	720,717	62,240	59,652	2,588	1,400,167	682,038	718,129
Dinajpur	1,567,080	823,972	743,108	83,612	81,658	1,954	1,483,468	742,314	741,154
Jalpaiguri	787,380	422,877	364,503	30,834	29,533	1,301	756,546	393,344	363,202
Darjeeling	249,117	133,005	116,112	17,442	15,780	1,662	231,675	117,225	114,450
Rangpur	2,154,181	1,125,109	1,029,072	73,824	71,542	2,282	2,080,357	1,053,567	1,026,790
Bogra	854,533	437,349	417,184	43,004	41,872	1,132	811,529	395,477	416,052
Pabna	1,420,461	709,396	711,065	67,474	64,673	2,801	1,352,987	644,723	708,264
DACCA DIVISION	*10,793,988*	*5,473,289*	*5,320,699*	*602,390*	*566,347*	*36,043*	*10,191,598*	*4,906,942*	*5,284,656*
Dacca	2,649,522	1,312,417	1,337,105	173,345	159,389	13,956	2,476,177	1,153,028	1,323,149
Mymensingh	3,915,068	2,014,805	1,900,263	146,386	139,586	6,800	3,768,682	1,875,219	1,893,463
Faridpur	1,937,646	970,164	967,482	99,866	94,067	5,799	1,837,780	876,097	961,683
Backergunge	2,291,752	1,175,903	1,115,849	182,793	173,305	9,488	2,108,959	1,002,598	1,106,361
CHITTAGONG DIVISION... ...	*4,737,731*	*2,364,396*	*2,373,335*	*281,763*	*271,448*	*10,315*	*4,455,968*	*2,092,948*	*2,363,020*
Tippera	2,117,991	1,085,989	1,032,002	136,190	131,250	4,940	1,981,801	954,739	1,027,062
Noakhali	1,141,728	568,777	572,951	61,678	59,673	2,005	1,080,050	509,104	570,946
Chittagong	1,353,250	641,392	711,858	78,319	75,106	3,213	1,274,931	566,286	708,645
Chittagong Hill Tracts	124,762	68,238	56,524	5,576	5,419	157	119,186	62,819	56,367
PATNA DIVISION...	*15,514,987*	*7,468,314*	*8,046,673*	*596,502*	*575,131*	*21,371*	*14,918,485*	*6,893,183*	*8,025,302*
Patna	1,624,985	804,583	820,402	104,275	99,293	4,982	1,520,710	705,290	815,420
Gaya	2,059,933	1,011,271	1,048,662	74,763	72,380	2,383	1,985,170	938,891	1,046,279
Shahabad	1,962,698	936,544	1,026,152	83,595	80,273	3,322	1,879,101	856,271	1,022,830
Saran	2,409,509	1,095,288	1,314,221	83,180	80,485	2,695	2,326,329	1,014,803	1,311,526
Champaran	1,790,463	885,607	904,856	40,496	39,435	1,061	1,749,967	846,172	903,795
Muzaffarpur	2,754,790	1,318,547	1,436,243	107,565	102,815	4,750	2,647,225	1,215,732	1,431,493
Darbhanga	2,912,611	1,416,474	1,496,137	102,628	100,450	2,178	2,809,983	1,316,024	1,493,959
BHAGALPUR DIVISION	*8,726,318*	*4,331,579*	*4,394,739*	*263,187*	*255,294*	*7,893*	*8,463,131*	*4,076,285*	*4,386,846*
Monghyr	2,068,804	1,011,580	1,057,224	60,727	58,570	2,157	2,008,077	953,010	1,055,067
Bhagalpur	2,088,953	1,027,535	1,061,418	69,260	67,720	1,540	2,019,693	959,815	1,059,878
Purnea	1,874,794	958,452	916,342	55,591	54,415	1,176	1,819,203	904,037	915,166
Malda	884,030	437,639	446,391	33,093	32,170	923	850,937	405,469	445,468
Sonthal Parganas	1,809,737	896,373	913,364	44,516	42,419	2,097	1,765,221	853,954	911,267
ORISSA DIVISION	*4,343,150*	*2,115,726*	*2,227,424*	*319,079*	*309,536*	*9,543*	*4,024,071*	*1,806,190*	*2,217,881*
Cuttack	2,062,758	995,409	1,067,349	159,086	154,090	4,996	1,903,672	841,319	1,062,353
Balasore	1,071,197	517,543	553,654	83,486	81,078	2,408	987,711	436,465	551,246
Angul and Khondmals	191,911	95,935	95,976	3,840	3,728	112	188,071	92,207	95 864
Puri	1,017,284	506,839	510,445	72,667	70,640	2,027	944,617	436,199	508,418
CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION ...	*4,900,429*	*2,409,266*	*2,491,163*	*142,900*	*135,413*	*7,487*	*4,757,529*	*2,273,853*	*2,483,676*
Hazaribagh	1,177,961	570,122	607,839	30,828	29,663	1,165	1,147,133	540,459	606,674
Ranchi	1,187,925	577,180	610,745	32,531	29,625	2,906	1,155,394	547,555	607,839
Palamau	619,600	306,203	313,397	11,851	11,434	417	607,749	294,769	312,980
Manbhum	1,301,364	653,336	648,028	52,427	50,287	2,140	1,248,937	603,049	645,888
Singhbhum	613,579	302,425	311,154	15,263	14,404	859	598,316	288,021	310,295
Feudatory States	*3,748,544*	*1,901,404*	*1,847,140*	*113,113*	*108,967*	*4,146*	*3,635,431*	*1,792,437*	*1,842,994*
Cooch Behar	566,974	301,382	265,592	33,273	32,105	1,168	533,701	269,277	264,424
Tributary States, Orissa	1,947,802	969,973	977,829	64,571	62,280	2,291	1,883,231	907,693	975,538
Ditto, Chota Nagpur ...	1,001,429	506,759	494,670	8,340	7,855	485	993,089	498,904	494,185
Hill Tippera	173,325	92,495	80,830	3,950	3,807	143	169,375	88,688	80,687
Sikkim	59,014	30,795	28,219	2,978	2,920	59	56,035	27,875	28,160

EDUCATION.

DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATE BY AGE.										
0—10.		10—15.		15—20.		20 and over.		Dis		
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.			
210,862	*20,357*	*495,684*	*30,194*	*472,364*	*33,185*	*2,918,664*	*126,164*	*BENGAL.*		
207,379	*19,951*	*485,695*	*29,664*	*461,442*	*32,554*	*2,834,091*	*123,585*	*British Territo*		
52,759	*3,255*	*106,209*	*4,717*	*94,166*	*5,430*	*521,745*	*20,428*	BURDWAN DI		
8,218	516	17,543	806	15,081	1,125	83,029	3,970	Burdwan.		
4,775	157	9,499	288	7,729	295	46,232	1,162	Birbhum.		
8,160	371	15,360	520	12,326	528	64,792	1,682	Bankura.		
19,585	1,188	36,461	1,391	34,757	1,498	194.061	6,123	Midnapore,		
6,407	597	14,332	1,050	12,444	1,188	71,127	4,485	Hooghly.		
5,674	426	13,104	662	11,829	796	62,504	3,006	Howrah.		
42,161	*6,590*	*88,682*	*9,823*	*85,244*	*10,883*	*519,762*	*38,256*	PRESIDENCY ON		
15,053	1,236	28,963	2,161	25,642	2,083	150,613	6,929	24-Parganas.		
8,162	3,631	15,826	4,601	22,102	5,415	131,597	19,209	Calcutta.		
7,061	620	12,781	1,108	9,638	1,216	56,627	4,324	Nadia.		
3,610	307	9,113	536	8,460	600	48,366	2,484	Murshidabad		
4,153	310	11,919	641	9,974	730	74,925	2,450	Jessore.		
4,122	586	10,140	776	9,428	839	57,634	2,860	Khulna.		
18,259	*1,533*	*38,122*	*1,856*	*36,713*	*1,979*	*271,616*	*8,352*	RAJSHAHI DN.		
2,901	265	7,123	351	5,956	344	43,672	1,628	Rajshahi.		
4,842	294	7,933	235	8,239	292	60,644	1,133	Dinajpur.		
1,398	208	2,542	221	2,321	176	22,672	696	Jalpaiguri		
352	180	1,112	237	2,294	243	12,022	1,002	Darjeeling.		
3,053	274	6,164	308	6,488	332	55,537	1,368	Rangpur.		
2,362	141	4,949	146	4,040	158	30,521	685	Bogra.		
3,351	171	8,199	356	6,875	434	46,248	1,840	Pabna.		
29,957	*2,973*	*76,428*	*5,470*	*69,059*	*6,507*	*390,903*	*21,093*	DACCA DIVI		
8,889	973	24,292	2,360	20,311	2,487	105,597	8,236	Dacca.		
6,460	563	16,543	850	16,241	1,210	100,342	4,172	Mymensing		
4,712	347	13,142	843	10,968	1,155	65,245	3,454	Faridpur.		
9,896	1,085	22,451	1,517	21,539	1,655	119,419	5,231	Backergung		
10,403	*1,227*	*33,510*	*1,544*	*33,969*	*1,503*	*193,513*	*6,041*	CHITTAGONVISION		
5,858	598	17,354	802	17,003	808	91,035	2,732	Tippera.		
1,623	285	6,543	315	7,215	299	44,292	1,106	Noakhali.		
2,908	331	9,369	412	9,250	377	53,579	2,093	Chittagong		
74	13	244	15	494	19	4,607	110	ChittagongTracts.		
20,523	*1,616*	*61,332*	*2,336*	*62,732*	*2,487*	*430,544*	*14,932*	PATNA DIVN.		
4,104	475	11,358	629	10,460	577	73,371	3,301	Patna.		
2,564	160	7,923	191	7,549	224	54,344	1,808	Gaya.		
2,278	171	8,394	303	8,896	364	60,705	2,484	Shahabad.		
2,089	79	8,285	239	8,319	296	61,792	2,081	Saran.		
957	104	3,481	154	3,945	154	31,052	649	Champara		
3,680	388	10,426	522	10,835	541	77,874	3,349	Muzaffarpu		
4,851	289	11,465	298	12,728	331	71,406	1,260	Darbhang		
12,635	*851*	*28,791*	*1,110*	*29,061*	*1,207*	*184,807*	*4,725*	BHAGALPUR VISION.		
2,283	168	6,533	227	6,585	343	43,169	1,419	Monghyr.		
3,215	119	6,908	182	7,372	170	50,225	1,069	Bhagalpur		
2,598	142	5,695	187	5,944	226	40,178	621	Purnea.		
1,853	80	3,816	117	4,063	165	22,438	561	Malda.		
2,686	342	5,839	397	5,097	303	28,797	1,055	Sonthal Pras.		
13,407	*914*	*36,066*	*1,505*	*34,144*	*1,434*	*225,919*	*5,690*	ORISSA DION.		
7,353	454	18,699	811	17,814	755	110,224	2,976	Cuttack.		
3,710	286	9,688	374	8,941	363	58,739	1,385	Balasore.		
143	13	437	25	382	21	2,766	53	Angul and Mondm		
2,201	161	7,242	295	7,007	295	54,190	1,276	Puri.		
7,215	*992*	*16,555*	*1,303*	*16,361*	*1,124*	*95,282*	*4,068*	CHOTA NPUR DIVISION.		
1,297	101	3,345	176	3,807	158	21,224	730	Hazaribi		
1,272	408	3,546	618	3,417	387	21,390	1,493	Banchi.		
385	36	1,310	56	1,196	54	8,543	271	Palamau		
3,284	308	6,451	329	6,177	387	34,395	1,116	Manbhu		
987	139	1,923	124	1,764	138	9,730	458	Singhbh		
3,483	*406*	*9,989*	*530*	*10,922*	*631*	*84,573*	*2,579*	*Feudato Sta*		
1,306	148	2,795	143	3,324	189	24,680	688	Cooch Br.		
1,849	172	6,153	298	6,174	342	48,099	1,478	Tributastate	Orissa,	
200	60	572	64	777	76	6,306	291	Dit	Chota Nagpur	
99	24	341	20	394	22	2,973	77	Hill Tira.		
29	2	123	5	253	8	2,515	44	Sikkim		

TABLE VI.—

Serial No.	Name of District.	Class A.—Government.			Class B.—Pasture and Agriculture.		
		Actual Workers.		Dependents, both sexes.	Actual Workers.		Dependents, both sexes.
		Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	
	BENGAL	***195,987***	***256***	***369,103***	***17,602,789***	***3,853,882***	***35,403,798***
	British Territory	***186,180***	***248***	***349,126***	***16,809,787***	***3,640,479***	***33,490,243***
	BURDWAN DIVISION	***23,694***	.....	***51,892***	***1,588,907***	***210,947***	***3,569,112***
1	Burdwan	5,759	.....	11,081	270,397	35,295	617,070
2	Birbhum	2,625	.....	6,245	173,821	12,506	446,518
3	Bankura	2,253	.....	5,378	232,006	61,265	413,324
4	Midnapore	5,260	.....	9,927	650,667	80,842	1,441,638
5	Hooghly	4,416	.....	11,710	165,799	16,892	387,816
6	Howrah	3,311	.....	7,551	96,217	4,147	262,746
	PRESIDENCY DIVISION	***38,544***	***221***	***59,594***	***1,697,914***	***81,308***	***3,610,436***
7	24-Parganas	7,126	8	11,571	390,484	30,061	877,915
8	Calcutta	18,737	213	20,640	12,413	1,379	16,962
9	Nadia	3,532	.....	8,793	332,807	13,247	629,706
10	Murshidabad	4,144	.....	9,132	249,207	12,701	544,099
11	Jessore	2,966	.....	5,553	413,273	13,399	882,201
12	Khulna	2,039	.....	3,905	299,730	10,521	659,553
	RAJSHAHI DIVISION	***15,126***	.....	***25,676***	***2,991,021***	***160,037***	***4,495,746***
13	Rajshahi	2,790	.....	5,420	388,449	18,290	706,285
14	Dinajpur	2,303	.....	3,666	466,365	12,372	894,605
15	Jalpaiguri	1,521	.....	1,437	245,391	52,684	408,011
16	Darjeeling	1,844	.....	2,132	72,174	51,025	72,864
17	Rangpur	3,033	.....	5,366	598,090	8,496	1,225,401
18	Bogra	1,056	.....	2,420	227,177	8,028	515,213
19	Pabna	2,579	.....	5,235	293,375	9,142	673,367
	DACCA DIVISION	***18,025***	.....	***44,150***	***2,434,518***	***66,864***	***5,739,375***
20	Dacca	5,229	.....	17,336	500,568	15,509	1,223,090
21	Mymensingh	6,084	.....	11,630	985,273	26,878	2,131,905
22	Faridpur	2,525	.....	5,981	423,337	9,882	1,067,910
23	Backergunge	4,187	.....	9,203	525,440	14,595	1,316,470
	CHITTAGONG DIVISION	***9,450***	.....	***22,770***	***967,584***	***68,464***	***2,465,852***
24	Tippera	2,688	.....	5,943	493,828	12,094	1,169,798
25	Noakhali	2,109	.....	5,717	237,555	8,381	647,989
26	Chittagong	4,413	.....	11,899	194,503	16,654	609,941
27	Chittagong Hill Tracts	240	.....	211	41,698	31,335	47,124
	PATNA DIVISION	***38,058***	***13***	***65,902***	***3,677,049***	***1,561,832***	***6,264,959***
28	Patna	6,858	.....	14,382	304,765	115,548	596,733
29	Gaya	8,566	.....	11,985	437,248	213,873	709,252
30	Shahabad	6,688	.....	14,670	447,251	237,366	601,635
31	Saran	3,714	.....	8,027	581,634	388,518	996,027
32	Champaran	2,319	.....	2,136	515,731	237,763	698,582
33	Muzaffarpur	4,759	13	7,389	602,309	100,747	1,407,939
34	Darbhanga	5,154	.....	7,313	787,911	268,027	1,252,791
	BHAGALPUR DIVISION	***20,870***	.....	***32,507***	***2,122,620***	***671,605***	***3,547,589***
35	Monghyr	5,778	.....	10,763	467,279	128,820	799,299
36	Bhagalpur	4,657	.....	8,897	454,683	157,698	844,145
37	Purnea	5,960	.....	5,899	551,112	112,118	715,696
38	Malda	1,697	.....	3,460	208,707	38,938	375,006
39	Sonthal Parganas	2,778	.....	3,488	440,839	234,031	813,443
	ORISSA DIVISION	***12,730***	.....	***29,519***	***889,249***	***45,137***	***1,940,013***
40	Cuttack	6,521	.....	18,124	383,688	13,870	843,857
41	Balasore	2,095	.....	3,548	253,363	10,552	587,527
42	Angul and Khondmals	478	.....	720	43,781	10,771	97,200
43	Puri	3,636	.....	7,127	208,417	9,944	411,429
	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION	***9,753***	***14***	***17,116***	***1,140,925***	***774,278***	***1,857,161***
44	Hazaribagh	2,352	.....	3,569	323,126	284,077	358,904
45	Ranchi	3,050	.....	6,533	216,066	92,481	641,866
46	Palamau	1,236	.....	2,130	149,326	118,258	191,939
47	Manbhum	1,944	14	3,527	294,480	142,805	473,159
48	Singhbhum	1,171	.....	1,357	157,927	136,657	191,293
	Feudatory States	***9,807***	***8***	***19,977***	***793,002***	***213,410***	***1,913,555***
49	Cooch Behar	1,431	1	2,162	126,436	3,035	362,265
50	Tributary States, Orissa	6,032	.....	14,557	394,346	64,969	952,621
51	Ditto, Chota Nagpur	993	.....	2,192	200,298	103,181	499,300
52	Hill Tippera	699	.....	502	53,415	24,011	81,445
53	Sikkim	652	7	564	18,507	18,214	17,924

OCCUPATIONS.

CLASS C.—PERSONAL SERVICES.			CLASS D.—PREPARATION AND SUPPLY OF MATERIAL SUBSTANCES.			CLASS E.—COMMERCE, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE.			Serial No.
ACTUAL WORKERS.		Dependents, both sexes.	ACTUAL WORKERS.		Dependents, both sexes.	ACTUAL WORKERS.		Dependents, both sexes.	
Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.		
593,847	*333,849*	*789,399*	*2,877,905*	*1,672,247*	*5,104,532*	*646,808*	*41,140*	*855,190*	
576,034	*324,751*	*759,708*	*2,790,021*	*1,603,051*	*4,919,648*	*639,000*	*40,254*	*845,672*	
54,238	*34,440*	*68,593*	*341,686*	*274,688*	*629,946*	*79,925*	*5,036*	*115,656*	
10,274	6,247	11,893	67,149	67,529	121,961	17,078	1,361	24,875	1
4,387	2,837	4,126	23,907	39,848	41,678	2,996	303	4,375	2
4,550	4,460	6,087	43,439	50,202	83,539	3,738	479	7,387	3
16,833	12,186	22,798	72,051	54,875	145,935	13,888	1,069	22,435	4
8,042	5,631	11,645	62,877	32,962	117,680	15,447	1,427	25,003	5
10,252	3,119	12,044	72,263	29,272	119,153	26,178	397	31,581	6
135,302	*46,955*	*117,420*	*558,331*	*166,195*	*872,980*	*200,317*	*5,190*	*192,411*	
19,664	6,140	19,647	142,473	48,501	194,442	26,585	1,181	31,842	7
81,704	23,649	43,580	140,111	13,969	118,633	123,698	1,978	78,178	8
8,513	5,135	15,058	76,053	29,911	158,326	16,856	767	30,444	9
8,490	8,564	12,810	66,016	51,254	139,673	7,897	685	14,208	10
11,227	2,591	17,168	86,749	15,375	169,762	13,872	453	23,734	11
5,794	876	9,157	46,929	7,915	92,144	11,409	126	14,005	12
32,819	*2,694*	*39,988*	*221,183*	*130,001*	*382,627*	*60,409*	*2,948*	*61,661*	
4,467	2,791	6,561	47,862	60,800	76,634	7,421	99	9,256	13
3,734	1,073	3,924	22,945	20,293	33,588	4,891	339	4,707	14
3,045	357	1,896	14,317	7,495	14,074	4,825	263	2,489	15
3,284	341	3,206	7,704	3,093	7,220	3,932	696	3,444	16
7,974	1,655	9,707	40,318	18,810	65,772	16,050	549	10,432	17
2,044	647	2,645	16,661	5,642	32,329	2,906	284	3,584	18
8,271	2,831	12,049	71,376	13,868	152,410	20,384	418	27,749	19
67,706	*12,653*	*109,284*	*428,188*	*66,354*	*852,628*	*104,961*	*3,349*	*150,409*	
20,786	4,728	38,304	143,042	21,836	328,187	39,047	1,383	72,113	20
20,366	4,202	27,882	129,513	24,632	243,249	32,871	970	38,332	21
10,741	2,109	18,462	75,844	8,428	153,535	17,577	664	27,373	22
15,813	1,524	24,636	79,789	11,458	127,657	15,466	332	12,591	23
29,644	*4,062*	*54,639*	*135,493*	*53,188*	*289,936*	*30,008*	*1,264*	*69,594*	
10,136	1,124	17,608	65,343	6,862	122,271	14,422	884	26,326	24
7,448	1,053	14,805	26,850	5,832	57,393	3,444	85	6,947	25
11,889	1,813	22,202	42,405	40,398	110,158	11,579	284	36,175	26
201	72	24	895	96	111	563	11	146	27
136,625	*130,583*	*206,318*	*498,163*	*377,979*	*837,004*	*73,360*	*11,649*	*114,620*	
20,034	21,195	33,180	75,771	39,789	163,533	19,423	3,411	31,932	28
28,848	25,411	52,886	85,761	46,993	154,978	7,970	1,698	16,357	29
21,437	29,495	26,374	103,539	90,687	152,174	10,268	1,806	15,406	30
13,042	17,606	17,944	52,989	70,008	96,749	7,206	2,040	12,685	31
10,431	5,448	10,961	42,065	21,364	50,514	5,879	614	5,680	32
24,783	12,293	40,957	52,257	25,754	92,352	9,063	914	15,662	33
18,050	19,135	24,016	85,781	83,377	126,704	13,552	1,166	16,898	34
53,813	*35,697*	*70,858*	*279,280*	*229,424*	*510,599*	*60,929*	*7,800*	*93,778*	
20,919	15,557	29,735	73,709	53,123	154,443	22,676	2,139	37,217	35
11,849	7,302	16,491	60,993	30,258	131,513	14,780	2,794	28,380	36
11,617	6,744	12,964	66,606	68,309	85,591	12,272	1,564	12,792	37
3,544	2,094	4,978	39,128	51,460	76,682	4,437	269	4,863	38
5,884	4,000	6,690	38,784	26,244	62,370	6,764	1,034	10,526	39
42,295	*31,176*	*62,425*	*171,800*	*202,989*	*303,846*	*16,109*	*1,189*	*26,952*	
23,950	18,598	36,277	93,299	115,218	169,873	8,976	314	17,644	40
5,155	5,332	7,562	23,681	37,070	42,083	4,185	581	4,982	41
1,042	1,039	1,476	8,148	8,099	13,209	284	6	109	42
12,148	6,207	17,110	46,672	42,602	78,681	2,664	288	4,217	43
23,592	*19,491*	*30,183*	*155,897*	*102,310*	*240,082*	*12,982*	*1,829*	*20,591*	
6,503	5,743	6,803	37,141	24,953	45,439	2,690	296	3,341	44
5,314	2,270	10,008	34,346	14,639	80,644	2,676	432	7,941	45
4,753	4,966	4,502	24,796	18,240	29,563	1,545	331	1,461	46
5,640	4,833	7,131	43,414	32,102	63,819	3,812	436	5,178	47
1,382	1,680	1,740	16,200	12,356	20,597	2,259	334	2,670	48
17,813	*9,091*	*29,691*	*87,884*	*69,196*	*184,884*	*7,808*	*886*	*9,518*	
2,451	279	2,058	8,538	4,683	14,305	2,226	46	1,388	49
11,686	7,320	20,329	57,246	53,188	118,267	2,861	335	4,383	50
2,596	1,185	6,469	20,232	8,505	51,056	1,589	305	3,214	51
642	120	715	1,799	2,804	1,237	390	22	166	52
	187	120	69	16	19	752	176	367	53

TABLE VI.—Occupations.

Serial number.	Name of District.	Class F.—Professions.			Class G.—Unskilled labour, not agricultural.			Class H.—Means of subsistence independent of occupation.		
		Actual Workers.		Dependents, both sexes.	Actual Workers.		Dependents, both sexes.	Actual workers.		Dependents, both sexes.
		Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.	
	BENGAL	***453,142***	***94,491***	***808,945***	***2,015,627***	***1,029,750***	***3,152,762***	***194,569***	***146,830***	***256,569***
	British Territory	***439,194***	***92,405***	***786,147***	***1,924,563***	***977,189***	***2,976,971***	***186,570***	***141,971***	***245,661***
	BURDWAN DIVISION	***67,636***	***15,227***	***121,227***	***307,223***	***153,175***	***452,100***	***26,991***	***14,720***	***33,087***
1	Burdwan	10,915	3,941	19,893	75,248	43,666	97,971	4,296	2,124	5,852
2	Birbhum	4,195	2,786	6,337	31,414	18,078	67,269	2,422	1,467	2,240
3	Bankura	8,908	2,015	14,235	46,987	40,796	78,106	3,264	1,567	2,436
4	Midnapore	21,739	4,462	32,561	57,425	29,316	71,604	8,870	4,969	8,394
5	Hooghly	12,197	1,157	27,195	47,770	14,571	63,718	5,035	1,998	8,294
6	Howrah	9,682	866	21,006	48,379	6,748	74,032	3,104	2,595	5,871
	PRESIDENCY DIVISION	***69,970***	***16,929***	***131,787***	***320,092***	***49,763***	***527,232***	***31,650***	***18,747***	***43,510***
7	24-Parganas	13,129	2,191	29,333	85,180	11,904	110,913	6,290	3,748	8,031
8	Calcutta	20,089	2,447	32,283	33,268	17,258	12,001	12,411	6,338	16,864
9	Nadia	11,685	4,006	22,906	83,526	8,589	192,955	5,242	2,254	7,180
10	Murshidabad	7,029	3,510	13,231	51,807	7,343	111,726	3,051	2,466	4,231
11	Jessore	11,079	3,553	19,785	42,722	3,035	64,103	3,168	2,220	4,987
12	Khulna	6,966	1,242	14,249	23,589	1,634	35,534	1,488	1,721	2,517
	RAJSHAHI DIVISION	***36,553***	***12,020***	***55,989***	***157,926***	***25,108***	***197,698***	***28,886***	***20,509***	***32,434***
13	Rajshahi	7,701	3,370	11,449	32,249	5,994	47,411	6,590	3,898	6,320
14	Dinajpur	5,369	2,306	5,440	30,110	5,473	34,653	3,266	2,330	3,329
15	Jalpaiguri	2,160	439	2,201	10,586	1,829	7,092	2,229	1,194	1,745
16	Darjeeling	888	121	1,064	5,392	4,190	3,478	433	118	474
17	Rangpur	10,573	2,850	13,624	44,740	3,492	39,672	9,217	6,752	11,608
18	Bogra	2,671	1,479	5,078	6,080	1,679	7,915	2,812	2,304	3,879
19	Pabna	7,191	1,455	16,233	28,769	2,951	57,477	4,339	3,913	5,079
	DACCA DIVISION	***66,877***	***7,214***	***143,713***	***148,031***	***17,457***	***233,793***	***24,454***	***24,824***	***29,161***
20	Dacca	19,661	1,741	50,237	42,373	3,934	77,377	6,686	8,948	7,407
21	Mymensingh	17,540	1,846	31,017	56,005	9,649	80,946	10,516	9,658	14,014
22	Faridpur	12,084	2,540	27,764	21,664	1,879	36,910	3,351	3,516	3,670
23	Backergunge	17,592	1,087	34,695	27,989	1,995	38,560	3,901	2,702	4,070
	CHITTAGONG DIVISION	***38,240***	***3,251***	***81,570***	***115,847***	***5,457***	***224,576***	***15,661***	***22,029***	***29,159***
24	Tippera	15,461	1,213	30,025	41,858	2,217	58,947	5,251	5,091	8,601
25	Noakhali	7,542	1,614	14,453	24,759	383	51,149	4,384	3,745	9,118
26	Chittagong	15,087	417	37,004	48,310	2,770	114,121	5,817	13,075	11,336
27	Chittagong Hill Tracts	150	7	88	920	87	359	209	111	104
	PATNA DIVISION	***72,351***	***21,814***	***113,246***	***358,047***	***320,380***	***564,214***	***20,893***	***19,270***	***30,665***
28	Patna	13,584	3,020	22,445	31,185	29,763	63,886	1,892	2,058	5,598
29	Gaya	14,605	1,838	24,878	60,183	63,425	83,692	4,057	2,246	3,183
30	Shahabad	13,151	4,595	20,782	42,079	61,620	54,162	3,016	2,472	2,013
31	Saran	8,136	3,248	12,361	26,205	52,020	33,299	1,758	2,400	1,698
32	Champaran	5,274	1,730	4,541	57,739	44,471	58,491	3,372	3,122	2,246
33	Muzaffarpur	6,851	2,251	10,766	96,193	42,091	189,202	3,383	3,045	3,818
34	Darbhanga	10,750	5,132	17,463	44,463	26,990	81,482	3,415	3,927	9,114
	BHAGALPUR DIVISION	***30,789***	***8,362***	***48,126***	***260,915***	***205,851***	***399,395***	***13,259***	***6,370***	***15,889***
35	Monghyr	11,915	2,504	18,885	56,689	47,881	98,559	2,779	1,894	6,181
36	Bhagalpur	7,360	1,714	10,688	83,006	74,066	130,479	4,027	824	2,319
37	Purnea	4,445	1,996	4,902	60,775	42,323	85,562	2,348	940	2,309
38	Malda	2,242	1,226	4,584	19,201	8,390	27,922	1,733	1,690	1,779
39	Sonthal Parganas	4,827	922	9,067	41,244	33,181	56,933	2,365	1,022	3,301
	ORISSA DIVISION	***39,527***	***2,125***	***65,788***	***145,124***	***40,879***	***224,085***	***17,739***	***9,802***	***22,652***
40	Cuttack	18,796	729	33,635	78,279	23,576	129,390	9,546	4,619	13,979
41	Balasore	5,252	467	6,607	23,679	3,790	31,842	4,057	3,005	4,782
42	Angul and Khondmals	505	40	24,962	942	1,089	1,364	493	213	392
43	Puri	14,974	889	584	42,224	12,424	61,489	3,643	1,965	3,499
	CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION	***17,251***	***5,463***	***25,601***	***111,358***	***159,119***	***153,878***	***7,044***	***5,707***	***8,804***
44	Hazaribagh	3,196	1,672	4,160	16,332	24,966	18,021	2,460	1,123	1,075
45	Ranchi	4,666	759	9,205	8,937	24,702	17,474	1,061	839	1,996
46	Palamau	1,969	718	2,312	14,462	26,321	18,625	677	795	665
47	Manbhum	6,235	2,065	8,497	55,403	63,662	75,790	1,966	1,929	3,524
48	Singhbhum	1,185	249	1,427	16,224	19,468	23,958	880	1,021	1,544
	Feudatory States	***13,948***	***2,086***	***22,798***	***91,064***	***52,561***	***175,791***	***7,999***	***4,859***	***10,998***
49	Cooch Behar	3,008	1,065	3,917	12,266	1,283	6,872	3,013	1,555	2,779
50	Tributary States, Orissa	8,547	453	15,161	56,779	32,848	115,009	3,860	2,570	4,345
51	Ditto, Chota Nagpur	1,169	488	3,049	20,312	17,942	52,723	730	403	3,498
52	Hill Tippera	682	65	557	1,616	374	1,025	393	331	325
53	Sikkim	542	15	114	91	114	72	3	.....	21

Changes in the Administration.

Transfer of the Statistical Department of the Bengal Secretariat to the office of the Director-General of Statistics.

287. From the 1st April 1901 the Statistical Department of the Bengal Secretariat, which dealt chiefly with the statistics of trade carried by rail, river, and road was, with the sanction of the Government of India, transferred to, and amalgamated with, the office of the Director-General of Statistics. This transfer was made with the object of securing closer and more constant supervision of the work of compilation of statistics and more effective review of the statistics when compiled.

Administration of the India Mines Act, VIII of 1901.

288. Under Act VIII of 1901 a Chief Inspector of Mines, and an Inspector of Mines for Bengal, were appointed, and a Mining Board for Bengal constituted during the year.

Forest Divisions.

289. The Hazaribagh Forests which had previously formed part of the Direction Division, and had been managed by the Conservator himself, were with effect from 19th January 1902 amalgamated with the Sonthal Parganas Forests Division.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

SIKKIM.

Area, 2,818 square miles; chief products, timber, rice, wheat, barley and cardamoms; population, 59,014; revenue, Rs. 1,38,606; present Raja, Thutop Namgyal, born, 1860; family of Tibetan origin; residence, Gangtok; has male heir, Sidkyong Tulku.

290. The general progress of the State during the year was steady and satisfactory, and its finances continue to develop in a most gratifying manner. There was a very large increase in the revenue from excise, and arrangements have been made for the systematic protection of the state forests. Fruit from the apple orchards at Lachung was sold at a good price in Darjeeling, and the cloth-weaving operations have now been extended to Lachen. A new residence for the Maharaj Kumar was commenced. A civil hospital building was constructed at Gangtok, and a dispensary built at Chidam. Four new roads, with a mileage of 20 miles, were constructed during the year, and there are now 376 miles of roads maintained by the state. Bridges were completed at Malli and Chapra over the Tista and Rungeet rivers respectively, and over the Rongnichur near its junction with the Tista. The condition of the people during the year was satisfactory. Crops were good, and prices of food-grains generally lower than in 1900-1901. There were no cases of small-pox at Gangtok, and only a few in the districts, where 3,569 persons were vaccinated. The total value of the Tibetan trade (exports and imports) during the year amounted to Rs. 16,59,748 as against Rs. 14,76,284 during 1900-1901.

The Council met on 15 occasions. In November His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, accompanied by the Chief Secretary and Commissioner, paid a short visit to Gangtok.

BHUTAN.

Area, roughly 20,000 square miles; population, estimated 250,000; present Deb Raj, Pamsangye Dorzi Yanpe Lopen, succeeded, 1885.

291. Our relations with Bhutan during the year continued satisfactory.

COOCH BEHAR.

Area, 1,307 square miles; chief products, rice, jute and tobacco; population, 566,974; revenue, Rs. 22,25,867; military force, 193 men and 4 field guns; present Maharaja, Nripendra Narain Bhup; family of Tibetan or Dravidian origin; residence, Cooch Behar. Has male heir (Maharaj Kumar Raj Rajendra Narain).

292. The constitution of the Council remained unchanged during the year. On its Judicial side it held 30 sittings, and on the Executive and Legislative sides the same number.

The revenue of the State amounted to Rs. 23,09,831, as against Rs. 22,55,419 in 1900-1901, and its expenditure to Rs. 22,84,149.

The gross earnings of the Cooch Behar State Railway were Rs. 1,30,559, and the actual expenditure Rs. 53,707. The net earnings for the year were, therefore, Rs. 76,852, or approximately 5⅓ per cent. on the total capital outlay. The mean mileage worked was practically the same as in the previous year—34 miles. The current demand of excise revenue rose from Rs. 1,01,911 to Rs. 1,15,374, and the collections made were the highest on record. There was a large falling-off in the receipts from stamps, due to a general decrease in litigation. The actual expenditure of the year on public works was Rs. 1,28,962, of which Rs. 60,194 were spent on original works. The Civil Surgeon's bungalow, which was destroyed by fire, has been re-built at a cost of Rs. 17,139. The old military and police barracks have been re-erected on new sites, and the old military and police hospital removed to a more suitable position in the compound of the Saddar Hospital. New dispensaries are being erected at Debiganj and Shitalkhuchi, and a veterinary hospital and dispensary to combat the serious ravages of rinderpest have been constructed. The settlement operations were extended during the year to the two remaining parganas of the State—Mekhliganj and Mathabhanga; and in the former pargana 6,582 bighas were surveyed, and in the latter 7,445 bighas. Survey work in pargana Lal Bazar was completed during the year by the survey of the remaining 3,608 bighas. The police force of the State is stated to be inefficient, but arrangements have been made for getting a few officers trained annually at the Bhagalpur Police Training School, and steps are being taken to bring the working of the Department into line with that of the Bengal Police. There was very little heinous crime during the year, and the number of cognisable and non-cognisable cases reported was 2,548, as compared with 2,772 in 1900-1901. A Bench of Honorary Magistrates has been formed at Haldibari. The average jail population was 81, or 9 less than in the preceding year. The health of the prisoners was exceptionally good. The total number of pupils on the rolls of the 347 primary and secondary schools in the State was 12,115, and the average daily attendance 8,170. Both figures are a distinct improvement on those of 1900-1901. The total expenditure on these schools was Rs. 42,215. The numbers on the rolls of the Victoria College were 185 against 163 in the preceding year. The expenditure on the college, which is almost entirely defrayed by the State, was Rs. 23,041. The results of the various examinations at which the students under education in the State appeared were somewhat unsatisfactory. Towards the close of the year the Inspector of Schools, with the permission of the Government of Bengal, joined the training institution at Kurseong with a view to qualifying himself in training the teaching staff of the State. The crops of the year were good, and the condition of the people generally satisfactory. Public health was good, there was practically no cholera and little small-pox, and the number of cases of dysentery and other bowel-complaints showed a very gratifying decrease. Vaccinations increased from 17,809 in 1900-1901 to 18,414 in the year under report.

HILL TIPPERA.

Area, 4,086 square miles; chief products, rice and cotton; population, 173,325; revenue from State, Rs. 6,63,365; from zamindari in British Territory, Rs. 8,39,935; military force, 298 infantry; present Raja, Radha Kishore Deb Burman Manikyo, born 1857; family Indo-Chinese; residence Agartola. Has male heir.

293. The year under report was not a prosperous one, and the crops, especially cotton, which is one of the main sources of State revenue, suffered to a considerable extent owing to unfavourable climatic conditions. At the commencement of the year the price of rice rose to Rs. 4-8 per maund, with the result that some distress ensued in the Sonamura and Udaipur Divisions. Adequate measures appear to have been taken to alleviate the sufferings of the people by distribution of rice, and sale of it on credit at reduced prices. Public health was not good. Cholera and dysentery broke out in epidemic form in the Sonamura and Udaipur Divisions, and small-pox also appeared in several parts of the State. The increased importance attached by the State authorities to tours and inspections by responsible officers during the year under report is a satisfactory feature of the administration. An area of 4,061 *drones* of fresh lands was brought under survey against 2,715 *drones* of the previous year.

Settlement of 2,358 *drones* was effected with a jama of Rs. 40,884 against a settlement of 4,967 *drones* with a jama of Rs. 46,940 in the preceding year. Though the area settled was comparatively small, the rent secured was higher than in the previous year. The increase in income derived from the re-settlement of old mahals on the expiry of their former terms amounts to Rs. 21,709. The collection of revenue during the year under report amounts to Rs. 7,06,359, against Rs. 6,63,365 of the previous year, the increase being Rs. 42,994, or 6·48 per cent. This is mainly apparent under Land Revenue proper. The largest decrease is under the head "Cotton." Eliminating the opening balance and deposit of the year, the total gross receipts of both the State and Chakla amounted to Rs. 16,47,275 against Rs. 15,03,300, showing an increase of Rs. 1,43,975. The increase was due partly to arrear collections, partly to recoveries on account of litigation costs and partly to the refund on account of cost of survey and settlement of Chakla Roshnabad estate. Deducting the expenditure of Rs. 16,12,198 on account of both the State and the Chakla from the gross receipts, the net credit balance comes to Rs. 35,077, to which if the opening balance and deposits of the past year be added, the gross closing balance comes up to Rs. 3,39,351, against Rs. 2,81,455 of the previous year.

On the expenditure side of the State there is an increase of Rs. 17,410 in the general administration, which is due to the reforms effected in certain branches of the administration. The increase under the head "Education" was mainly due to the provision made for the education of the Jubraj, but expenditure in the State under education generally is gradually increasing, the mental development of the Thakurs being one of the chief aims of the Darbar. The boarding-house maintained for their use is now under more efficient management than formerly, and the number of inmates has increased. There were in existence during the year nine charitable dispensaries with a hospital attached to each: 19,649 out-door patients and 1,094 in-door patients were treated in them, against 22,071 and 1,038 respectively of the previous year.

The area of the State model farm has been gradually extended and a variety of crops are being tried. The results up to date scarcely justify the cost, but the institution is in its infancy, and as the Darbar remarked, it should be kept under careful supervision.

TRIBUTARY AND POLITICAL STATES OF CHOTA NAGPUR.

Consisting of nine States; Bonai, Changbhakar, Gangpur, Jashpur, Kharsawan, Korea, Seraikela, Sirguja and Udaipur, varying in size from 6,103 square miles (Sirguja) to 145 square miles (Kharsawan). Total population 1,001,429. None of the States have a military force of their own, but the subordinate tenures are of a feudal nature.

Administration.

294. The three States of Changbhakar, Korea and Seraikela were in charge of their respective Chiefs throughout the year. Sirguja, Gangpur and Jashpur were partially in charge of the Chiefs of those States, but their administration to a large extent was vested in Dewans appointed by the Chiefs with the approval of Government. The administration of the Udaipur State, owing to the minority of the Chief, was carried on directly by the Commissioner through a Manager appointed by Government. Raja Chandra Deo and Thakur Mohendra Narayan Singh Deo, the Chiefs of Bonai and Kharsawan, respectively, died in February 1902, leaving as successors their eldest minor sons, Tikait Dharanidhar Deo, aged 18, and Sri Ram Chandra Singh Deo, aged 10, both of whom have been recognized by Government. The two States have been placed under Government management. In Sirguja, Gangpur, Jashpur and Udaipur, original criminal and civil cases were tried by the Dewans of the first three States, and by the Manager of Udaipur. The Tikait of Gangpur, the Chief's eldest son, assisted the Dewan in both civil and criminal work, and an Honorary Magistrate at Raghunathpali disposed of criminal cases. In the other States these cases were tried by the Chiefs themselves. Appeals from all the Dewans referred to above come to the Commissioner first, and are then either heard by him or transferred to the Chief of the State for disposal.

Revenue and Expenditure.

295. Compared with the preceding year, the aggregate revenue from all sources shows an increase of Rs. 1,43,861, the result of large increases in Udaipur (Rs. 92,889) and Seraikela (Rs. 37,958). Excise administration was put on a better footing in almost all the States; and though the number of excise shops has fallen to 554, the total excise revenue was Rs. 24,502 in excess of

the average of the previous three years. The increase was most marked in Gangpur, and was the result of the efforts of the late Dewan, and of a keen competition at the settlement of the country liquor shops.

The total expenditure on public works in the States was Rs. 13,832; but the actual cost incurred was more, as a good deal of the labour expended was remunerated otherwise than by money-payment.

Police and Criminal Justice.

296. The police employed in the various States numbered 518 officers and men, and cost Rs. 36,610. In addition to the regular police, chaukidars and goraits are maintained, being paid in kind. The total number of cases brought to trial, including those pending at the close of the past year, was 2,001, with 4,085 persons concerned, as against 1,545 with 3,510 persons in the previous year. Of the 2,001 cases, all were disposed of except 120 pending at the close of the year. The increase in cases instituted, which is particularly noticeable under the head "Offences against Property," was shared by almost all the States, and though partly due to bad harvests is probably to a greater extent the consequence of the fact that there are now officers appointed to sit regularly and hear complaints. There were 17 Sessions cases for disposal, and the total number of persons concerned in them was 36. Fines to the amount of Rs. 9,957 were imposed during the year, and realised to the extent of Rs. 7,576. There were altogether 52 criminal appeals to the Commissioner, and in 31 of these the decision of the Lower Court was confirmed. The total population of the various jails was 1,094, and the mortality amongst the prisoners 14.

Civil Justice.

297. The total number of civil cases for disposal during the year was 1,173. Of these 902, or 79·9, were disposed of during the year. The number of civil and revenue appeals to the Commissioner was 125, and of these 85 were disposed of during the year, the orders of the Lower Courts being confirmed in 52.

Education.

298. The total number of schools rose from 73 in 1900-1901 to 97 in the year under report, and the number of pupils from 1,584 to 2,029. The increase was most marked in Sirguja, where 28 new schools were opened. Of the 2,029 pupils, 387 belonged to the aboriginal races.

Public health and material condition of the people.

299. The material condition of the people was, on the whole, fair, though owing to short rainfall, and consequent short crops, it was in Sirguja and Udaipur unsatisfactory.

General health was good. The total number of patients treated at the seven dispensaries in the various States was 17,076, practically all of whom were out-patients. Arrangements have now been made for the better control and supervision of vaccination in the States generally. Twenty-eight thousand three hundred and forty-five vaccinations were performed during the year, of which 98 per cent. were successful.

TRIBUTARY MAHALS OF ORISSA.

Consist of the seventeen States of Athgar, Athmallik, Baramba, Boad, Daspalla, Dhenkanal, Hindol, Keonjhar, Khandpara, Moharbhanj, Narsingpur, Nayagarh, Nilgiri, Pal Lahera, Ranpur, Talcher and Tigiria. Their area varies from 46 square miles (Tigiria), to 4,243 square miles (Moharbhanj). Total population 1,947,802. All pay tribute. Most of them maintain small militias and a few have guns.

Changes in Administration.

300. The Chief of Athmallik, Maharaja Mohendra Deo, died in November 1901 and was succeeded by his son, under the name and title of Raja Bibhudendra Deo. In June the State of Talcher was released from Government management on the Chief attaining his majority.

Revenue and Expenditure.

301. Of the four States under Government management during the year, collections were fair in Baramba, Dhenkanal and Pal Lahera, and unsatisfactory in Narsingpur. There were 709 excise shops in the various States, and the revenue derived from them was Rs. 1,09,030, a small increase over the receipts of 1900-1901. The consumption of Rajshahi ganja amounted to 82 maunds, and the duty realised to Rs. 16,276. An increase under "Stamps" from Rs. 43,856 to Rs. 55,534 is the consequence of a rise in civil litigation. Receipts from registration rose from Rs. 4,693 to Rs. 6,354. There has been a considerable increase in the number of deeds registered, which totalled 6,015 as against 4,454 in 1900-1901. The system has found the greatest development in Nayagarh, Nilgiri, Ranpur and Moharbhanj. Arrangements have been made under which the forest administration of the States will be put on a better footing. Settlement operations were in progress during the year in Dhenkanal, Hindol

and Nayagarh. In Dhenkanal, where the work was completed during the twelve months, the result has been an increase of 59 per cent. in the land revenue. In Hindol, where also the work was finished during the year, the operations resulted in an increase of the land revenue from Rs. 37,351 to Rs. 50,510. In Nayagarh the work is still uncompleted.

The expenditure on public works in the States amounted to Rs. 1,65,609, the major portion of which was spent on buildings. Twenty-seven and-a half miles of new roads were made during the year, raising the total mileage to 1,031 miles.

Police and Criminal Justice.

302. The police entertained in the various States, 160 officers and 834 men, cost Rs. 1,00,023, the figures being a little higher than in the previous year. In addition to the regular police, rural police styled paiks and chaukidars are maintained.

The number of cases instituted under the Penal Code (5,368) was 576 less than in 1900-1901. Of the total number of persons brought to trial, 57·3 were convicted: of 32 persons on trial before Sessions Court, 29 were convicted. The amount of fines imposed was Rs. 22,907, and of fines realised Rs. 19,325: in both cases the figures are an improvement on those of the previous year. Admissions to the several jails fell from 2,806 to 2,445, but the mortality amongst the prisoners showed an unsatisfactory increase from 35 to 45. A new jail was completed at Keonjhar during the year.

Civil Justice.

303. Civil, revenue and miscellaneous cases rose from 25,507 to 31,665, the increase being shared by all the States except Athgarh, Moharbhanj, Nayagarh and Tigiria. The rise occurred under every head, but mostly in suits for rent and money or other moveable property and in miscellaneous applications.

Education.

304. There were in all 1,293 schools in the several States, the total number of pupils being 17,990. Of the schools, 1,149 were lower primary schools, attended by 13,277 pupils. Both schools and pupils show an increase over the figures of 1900-1901. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,01,911, of which Government contributed Rs. 5,157 and the balance was paid by the several States and the people. The total number of aboriginal pupils was 1,618, or 23 more than in the previous year.

Public health and condition of the people.

305. In spite of a partial failure of crops, the material condition of the people was on the whole satisfactory. In Nayagarh the failure of the crops was in some parganas serious, and the people had to be assisted with advances, while relief was also given by providing public works. On the whole prices were slightly easier in the remaining States, though there was an appreciable rise in the price of rice in Moharbhanj, Keonjhar and Dhenkanal. Public health was unsatisfactory. Sporadic cases of small-pox and cholera occurred in most of the States. In Hindol, Ranpur and Moharbhanj, the latter disease broke out in an epidemic form, causing great loss of life among all classes. Cholera caused great havoc in the States of Ranpur and Nayagarh. The total number of vaccinations performed during the year was 43,353, or 14,438 above the triennial average. Thirty-six pupils were sent from all the States, except Khandpara, to a training class in connection with the Medical School at Cuttack; it is hoped that these men, who have all been declared qualified to practise as vaccinators, will be able to make vaccination more popular in the States, at whose cost they have been trained and where they will return to work. The number of dispensaries in existence was the same as in the previous year: they appear to do good work, though the figures of attendance at them are not always to be trusted.

Condition of the People.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for the year 1901-1902.]

Prices of food and labour.

306. The generally-deficient and badly-distributed rainfall, resulting in short crops in many parts, necessarily affected prices. With the exception of comparatively few districts, common rice was everywhere dearer than in 1900-1901, and much dearer than in 1899-1900. The highest average price was in Backergunge (9 seers 14 chitaks for the rupee) and the lowest in Balasore (15 seers 6 chitaks). In some districts exportation to less favoured parts also contributed to the rise. Prices were especially high, as compared with those of 1899-1900, in Dinajpur, Rangpur, Pabna, Mymensingh, Backergunge, Noakhali, Patna, Darbhanga, Purnea and Manbhum. The rise in

wheat, in comparison with the prices of the same year, was less marked, and in many districts there was a fall from the prices of 1900-1901. Prices were highest in Darjeeling (8 seers) and lowest in Malda (16 seers 8 chitaks). Gram was generally cheaper, and a fall in almost all the districts of the Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions, where it is much consumed, must have been of great advantage to the lower classes. Maize, also largely used by those classes in the same Divisions and in Chota Nagpur, rose in price in some districts and declined in others, the variations from the prices of the previous year not being considerable.

Wages remained stationary, except in a few localities, where special demand caused some rise. This was the case in Midnapore and Palamau, where the Jheria extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway and the Barun-Daltonganj Railway, respectively, are under construction. The opening of the Railway is said to have caused a rise in the wages of both skilled and unskilled labour in Balasore also. The coal-mining industry has also benefited the labourers in Manbhum. It is reported that the wages of agricultural labourers were higher in Malda, and that the rise in prices caused an increase in the wages of unskilled labour in Birbhum.

Material condition of the people.

307. The high prices of the year pressed somewhat heavily on the classes that are dependent on money-wages or fixed incomes. In the Burdwan Division the condition of the agricultural classes was generally good, except in Bankura and Burdwan, while in Midnapore and Hooghly some damage was caused by the floods in September. Except in Midnapore prices in the Division generally were much the same as in the previous year, though they were very high as compared with those of 1899-1900.

In the Presidency Division, in consequence of short harvests, prices of common rice generally ruled higher than in the previous year. The condition of the people was, however, much better than in 1900-1901 in all parts of the Division, except in the Narail and Diamond Harbour subdivisions, where the crops suffered. In Jessore and the 24-Parganas the people recovered completely from the depression of the preceding year.

In the Rajshahi Division prices generally were high, especially in Dinajpur, Rangpur and Pabna; the condition of the people was, on the whole, good, but the resources of the cultivators in Pabna were seriously affected by a sudden fall in the price of jute. The Commissioner states that the position of the landless classes dependent on fixed incomes or service is deteriorating with the general rise in prices and the standard of living, but that they are as yet a comparatively small portion of a district population.

In the Dacca Division the outturn of the crops was on the whole good, and the high prices of food-grains contributed to the prosperity of the cultivating classes throughout the Division.

In Tippera and Noakhali the produce of the soil affords the agricultural classes ample means to maintain themselves in comfort. In Chittagong the condition of the people was generally good, and that of the residents of the area devastated by the storm-wave of 1897 has also improved. Many new embankments have been made and rice is being grown, but it will still take some time for the people to recover entirely from the effects of the cyclone an for the land to be brought to its previous state of cultivation. In certain areas in the Chittagong Hill Tracts distress prevailed among the hillmen, owing to the failure of the early rice crop, and relief was granted by Government, in the shape of rice, to the value of Rs 14,012. A good winter rice crop was, however, subsequently obtained, and the people were able to repay the money due from them on account of these grain advances. A large number of families emigrated during the year from the Chittagong Hill Tracts, owing partly to scarcity and partly to the gradual decrease in the area of hill land available for cultivation by *jhooming*.

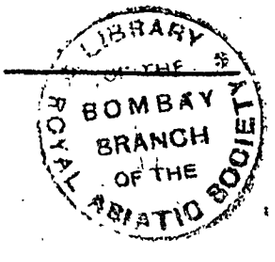
In the Patna Division the people suffered from a bad year, and are reported to be in worse condition than they were at the beginning of the year. The estimated outturn of all the crops of the year was not much in excess of 50 per cent. of the normal, but the serious consequences which might have been anticipated did not follow, because, in most districts, the crops of previous years were good. Moreover, prices did not rise to any considerable extent, and the labouring and other classes whom high prices affect had not this

difficulty to contend against. In fact, the prices of the food-grains on which these classes principally depend, were, on the whole, easier than in previous years. The districts south of the Ganges had less prosperous seasons in 1900-1901 than those to the north, and thus felt the bad seasons of the past year more severely. Patna and Gaya were singularly free from plague. Shahabad suffered to some extent. In Saran it was present all the year, but the mortality was much less than in 1900-1901. The subdivision and town of Hajipur in Muzaffarpur, as also Samastipur in the district of Darbhanga, and the town of Darbhanga, suffered severely from this disease.

In the Bhagalpur Division the year was not a prosperous one, owing to the short outturn of the crops. Except in one or two limited tracts, the district of Monghyr was generally free from plague. There was a somewhat long-continued, though not very severe, outbreak in the town of Deoghur, which, fortunately, did not spread into the interior of the subdivision.

No material change in the condition of the people occurred in the Orissa Division. In parts of Balasore there was serious loss of the winter rice crop, and the agricultural classes suffered in consequence. The opening of the railway has, however, stimulated the export trade in rice and enriched the cultivators generally in the Division.

Plague and cholera of a bad type prevailed in some parts of Hazaribagh, while in Singhbhum small-pox was prevalent during the greater part of the year. In Palamau the people suffered from bad crops following on a series of bad years, but in Ranchi and Manbhum their circumstances were better than in the previous year.



CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Realsiation of the Revenue.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for 1901-1902.]

308. Details of the year's demand, collections and balances of land revenue will be found under Chapter V, "Revenue and Finance." The present chapter gives details as to the mode of realisation of the revenue, and information as to matters connected with the administration of land revenue, not treated of elsewhere in this Report.

Remittances of Land Revenue and Cesses by means of Special Money-orders.

309. During the year a sum of Rs. 20,03,034 on account of land revenue and cesses was remitted by 212,821 special money-orders, against Rs. 20,21,923 remitted by 212,116 money-orders in 1900-1901. The average value of each order was Rs. 9-6-7, against Rs. 9-8-3 in 1900-1901. The total amount remitted exceeded a lakh of rupees in each of the districts of Midnapore, Dacca, Mymensingh and Faridpur The system continues to be popular among the proprietors of petty estates in most districts, but the larger proprietors prefer to pay through their agents at the head-quarters of the districts, the arrangement being more convenient to them.

Operation of the Sale Laws.

310. Of 12,454 estates, shares and interests which became liable to sale for non-payment of land revenue, against 14,129 in 1900-1901, 1,328, or 10·6 per cent., were actually sold, against 1,578, or 11·1 per cent., in the previous year. The prices obtained increased from 3·7 to 7·6 times the revenue demand of the interests sold. Of 236 appeals preferred to the Commissioners against sales 49 were successful, while Government was moved to annul the sales in 16 cases on the ground of hardship. As the defaults and the sales were 17,326 and 1,686, respectively, in 1899-1900, there has been a considerable decrease in the past two years. This is specially satisfactory in view of the fact that these years have not been remarkable for great agricultural prosperity. Possibly improvement in tauzi work has helped proprietors to understand their accounts, and is promoting punctuality in payment of revenue.

Working of the Public Demands Recovery Act I (B.C.) of 1895, as amended by Act I (B.C.) of 1897.

311. The total number of certificates filed increased by 2,013, being 230,570 against 228,557 in 1900-1901. The percentage of certificates disposed of to the total number for disposal shows an increase, being 77·4 against 73·9 in the previous year. The increase occurred in all Divisions except Bhagalpur. The percentage was, as in the previous year, highest in the Presidency Division (8,792) and lowest in the Chota Nagpur Division (63·6). The cases disposed of exceeded the institutions in all the Divisions except Bhagalpur and Chota Nagpur. The percentages of cases in which payments were made on the issues of notices and on attachment of property, out of the total number of cases disposed of, are 27·1 and 56·9, against 28·1 and 54·6, respectively, in the previous year. Post-card notices are reported to have been issued in the districts of Burdwan, Pabna, Backergunge, Chittagong, Noakhali, Monghyr, Malda, Cuttack and Puri before the filing of certificates. This resulted in a decrease in the number of certificates issued in Burdwan and Backergunge. Forty-eight persons were imprisoned during the year for non-payment of Government demands (exclusive of sums due to wards' estates, road cess and ferry dues) against 74 in the previous year.

Irrigation. Drainage and Embankments.*

312. Much useful work in the direction of drainage and improvement of embankments was done in the Midnapore district. A sum of Rs. 13,617 was allotted from the Government Estates' Improvement Grant for the maintenance and repair of small embankments and the excavation of channels in the Majnamutha estate. Rupees 3,884 were also spent, from the same funds, for the construction of draw-shutters for the sluices of an embankment to the north of the Contai subdivision, with a view to regulating the flow of water on to the adjacent low-lying lands. The drainage of a large

*No information is given here as to the large irrigation schemes under the Public Works Department.

area of the Sujamutha estate has been improved by the clearance of silt from the Kalaberia khal by the Burdwan Raj, at a cost of Rs. 12,000. In the Tamluk subdivision the Protapkhali khal is being excavated under the Bengal Embankment Act. The collections on account of the Rajapur and Howrah drainage schemes, including interest, amounted to Rs. 1,41,097 and Rs. 62,501, respectively, leaving balances of Rs. 8,49,998 and Rs. 1,18,503, against Rs. 9,59,149 and Rs. 1,62,762, respectively, at the close of the preceding year. Collections will be completed in the former case by the year 1908, and, in the latter, by the year 1905.

The Mason pyne or canal in the Champaran district, which was constructed at the expense of Government during the famine of 1897, has proved very useful for irrigation purposes. The Kharakpur irrigation channels continue to be maintained by the Darbhanga Raj, and a scheme for the drainage of the Rajmahal marshes, in the Sonthal Parganas, will now be carried out.

The various embankments in existence in the Province are reported to have been maintained in good condition during the year. Those on the banks of the Damodar and the Ajai in Burdwan withstood the floods of September 1901; but, owing to breaches in the zamindary embankments on the right bank of the former river at Nathoo, Mohanpore, Biroopore and Debiboorshoot, great damage was done to some of the neighbouring villages. Steps have been taken to close the breaches. Protective works to close the breach formed on the right bank of the Damodar at Koomirkhola during the floods of 1898-99 were undertaken and completed during the year. The construction of retired lines of embankments at Sanda and Manikhati, on the left bank of the river, has also been carried out. The effect of the gradual removal of the embankments on the right bank of the Damodar is said to be beneficial.

In Midnapore there are 23 embankments 19 of which are maintained under the contract system. The term of the last contract expired with the year 1900-1901, and the question of its renewal is now under the consideration of the Government.

In the 24-Parganas the existing lines of Schedule D embankments (216¾ miles in length), with 48 sluices and 17 inspection bungalows, were maintained at the cost of Government. There are also four Government sluices maintained by the Calcutta Corporation, and 25 sluices maintained at the cost of the zamindars. All the sluices are reported to have been in good working order, with the exception of those under the Calcutta Corporation. Two new *takavi* sluices, one at Kooripotta and the other at Shamukpotta, were constructed during the year at a cost of Rs. 5,276 and Rs. 5,827, respectively.

During the year special enquiries were made regarding the proposed abandonment of the Laltakuri embankment, in Murshidabad, and it was decided that the embankment should no longer be retained. In Chittagong Rs. 15,864 were expended on the up-keep of Government embankments. In the Patna Division the Gandak embankment, which runs through the four North Gangetic districts of Saran, Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga, is maintained under the contract system. Out of a total demand of Rs. 72,531 the amount collected was Rs. 49,586, while a sum of Rs. 7,388 was adjusted from the previous advance collections. The balance outstanding at the close of the year was Rs. 15,557. A portion of this has been recovered since the close of the year, and certificates have issued for the remainder. The collections were much better than in the preceding year. The contract for the districts of Muzaffarpur and Champaran will expire on the 1st April 1903, and arrangements are being made for a new contract for 20 years from that date.

313. During the year 84,447 applications for mutation were filed against 69,869 in the preceding year, showing an increase of 14,578. The number of cases disposed of was 81,474, against 67,183 in the previous year. The increase is shared by all the Divisions, except Rajshahi and Chota Nagpur, and is said to have been due generally to more vigorous action under section 65 of the Land Registration Act. The expenditure on account of land registration charges during the year amounted to Rs. 29,893, against Rs. 31,392 in the preceding year. It was heavy in Chittagong, Muzaffarpur and Cuttack, where special establishments are entertained. The fees realised during the year amounted to Rs. 3,324, against Rs. 3,524 in the preceding year. The number of appeals or applications for revision presented to the Board under

Land Registration.

section 85 was 20. The registers prescribed under the Act are generally in good condition.

Separate Accounts and Registration of Tenures under Act XI of 1895.

314. Including 4,250 accounts opened during the year there was, at the close of the year, a total number of 97,836 separate accounts, paying a total land revenue demand of Rs. 93,61,660. Of these 73,257 accounts were for shares in joint estates held in common tenancy (under section 10 of Act XI of 1859), 6,166 for shares representing specific portions of lands in estates (under section 11 of the same Act) and 18,413 for shares consisting of undivided interests in specific lands (under section 70 of Act VII (B.C.) of 1876).

There were 35 registrations of tenures for their protection against annulment in case of the sale of the estate under Act XI of 1859 for arrears of revenue during the year, and the total number of tenures thus protected was 5,368 at the close of the year. These tenures comprise a total area of 5,224,900 acres, with a total rental of Rs. 29,91,616.

Partitions.

315. The Estates Partition Act V (B.C.) of 1897 has generally worked smoothly. The number of partitions effected during the year was 361, as compared with 371 in the preceding year. Of these, 209 were in the Patna Division, 68 in the Dacca Division, 26 in the Bhagalpur Division and 58 in the other Divisions. At the close of 1898-99 there were 1,297 pending cases in the Patna, Bhagalpur and Dacca Divisions: this number has now been reduced to 1,013. Special Deputy Collectors were employed for partition work in every district of the Patna Division, except Champaran. In the districts of Patna, Shahabad, Saran and Darbhanga the Deputy Collector was a half-time officer, who did partition work in addition to his duties in the general line. The percentage of disposals was largest in Purnea, Patna and Gaya. Compared with the year 1900-1901 there was an increase in the number of institutions in all the districts of the Patna Division, except Shahabad, and a falling-off in the disposals in Patna and Shahabad. Special Deputy Collectors were employed throughout the year in the Dacca and Mymensingh districts. A Special Deputy Collector was appointed shortly before the close of the year for partition work in Jessore, where the area under partition was 109,295 acres. The average cost per acre of partitions completed during the year varied from Rs. 3-13-4 in Tippera to Re. 0-4-10 in Rajshahi. The proposals made for revising the system of keeping butwara accounts and amending some of the forms of account were disposed of during the year under review, and the necessary changes have been introduced in the revised edition of the Butwara Manual, which is now under issue.

Land Acquisition.

316. The land acquisition proceedings confirmed by the Board during the year covered an area of 13,985 acres of land, which were acquired on behalf of the Government, Municipalities, Railways, District Boards, etc., at a total cost of Rs. 31,23,739, as compared with 19,345 acres, costing Rs. 1,24,55,770 taken up during the preceding year.

The expenditure incurred though noticeably less than in the preceding year, during which various large and expensive projects were confirmed by the Board, was considerably in excess of that during the year 1899-1900. Of the total expenditure incurred during the year under report, over Rs. 27½ lakhs were on behalf of railways. The average cost per acre of the land acquired was Rs. 223, or omitting specially costly projects, Rs. 185. The corresponding figures in the preceding year were Rs. 644 and Rs. 150, respectively. Land for various projects, chiefly railway, was under acquisition during the year, and orders were passed on a number of new projects for the most part connected with railways.

In the Burdwan Division, as in the previous year, four Deputy Collectors were specially employed upon Railway projects only. The work of both the Special Deputy Collectors employed in the Rajshahi Division during the preceding year came to a close towards the end of the year under review. In the Chittagong Division a Special Deputy Collector was appointed to acquire the lands required for the Laksam-Noakhali branch line in the districts of Tippera and Noakhali. In the Patna Division one Special Deputy Collector was employed on land acquisition work, the most important project in his hands being that of the land required for the Tribeni and Dhaka Canals. The acquisition of land in the Chota Nagpur Division for the Barun-Daltonganj Railway, which was being conducted by a Special Deputy Collector, was

completed during the year. On the 31st March 1902, there were 478 projects pending in the different districts.

317. The loans granted during the year amounted to Rs. 71,649 against Rs. 53,020 in the preceding year. The district in which the largest advances have been made is Gaya, where efforts are being made to encourage works of village irrigation. The balance of loans outstanding under the Act on the 1st April 1901 was Rs. 3,34,361, which was increased to Rs. 4,06,010 by the advances made during the year, and the amount for recovery was Rs. 1,45,330. The total collections amounted to Rs. 92,894, while Rs. 6,462 were remitted, the percentage of collections on the realisable demand being 63·9. The arrear balance at the close of the year was Rs. 45,974, of which Rs. 38,977 and Rs. 6,997 represent loans made under the ordinary and the modified rules, respectively. The largest sums that became repayable under the modified rules were in the Chota Nagpur, Presidency and Patna Divisions, where they amounted to Rs. 14,308, Rs. 8,471 and Rs. 5,229, the collections being Rs. 8,518, Rs. 4,588 and Rs. 2,571, respectively. The still unpaid balances of the year are under recovery by the certificate procedure. Advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act, XIX of 1883.

318. The balance on the 1st April 1901 was Rs. 4,16,161, and Rs. 67,413 were advanced during the year, making a total of Rs. 4,83,574, of which Rs. 3,76,981 were realisable within the year. The total collections amounted to Rs. 1,95,205, and Rs. 3,553 were remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,78,223. The percentage of collections on the realisable demand was 51·7. This very poor result was, however, due to the large unrealised balances in the four districts of Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Angul and Ranchi, where the harvests were poor. Advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XII of 1884.

319. The question of the establishment of agricultural banks, or Co-operative Credit Societies in villages, has been under consideration for some time. In October 1900 the Government of India enquired whether any useful action could be taken by the Government of Bengal to encourage the formation of such banks, and what assistance and concessions should be given to them. The subject was considered by the Board of Revenue, in conference with selected officials and non-official gentlemen; and the Lieutenant-Governor, agreeing in the view taken in this conference that an attempt should be made to establish such banks on the principle of friendly co-operation, decided to depute a special officer to initiate experimental village banks in selected tracts. Agricultural Banks.

Mr. P. C. Lyon, I.C.S., Director of the Agricultural Department, was accordingly deputed in November 1901 to take such steps to encourage the formation of credit societies as might appear to him to be in harmony with local requirements. Mr. Lyon made a short tour in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh to observe the working of the agricultural banks started there. As the result of his deputation, ten village banks were started during the year, and twenty-two more have since been started. The Commissioners of Divisions have been asked to watch and report on the progress of the banks.

320. During the year 1,162,255 Collectorate cases of all kinds were instituted, and 1,156,309 disposed of. There was an increase under the heads of land registration, cess revaluation, miscellaneous cases, cases connected with Government estates, certificates, stamp cases, suits under the rent laws and execution cases. Land acquisition and excise cases show a decline. There were also fewer applications under Act XI of 1859, sales for arrears of revenue, applications under the Agriculturists' and Land Improvement Loans' Acts, and notices and applications under the Tenancy Act. Miscellaneous.

Surveys and Settlements.

[The information given in this chapter for the larger Survey and Settlement operations under the control of the Superintendent of Provincial Surveys and the Director of Land Records is for the year ending 30th September 1901 and taken from the Survey and Settlement Reports for the year 1st October 1900 to 30th September 1901: the information given for minor operations not under the control of the Director of Land Records is for the year ending 31st March 1902, and taken from the Board's Land Revenue Administration Report for 1901-1902.]

MAJOR OPERATIONS.

321. The outturn of traverse survey for the year was 3,695 square miles, and of topographical survey 121 square miles. There were some changes Survey Operations.

of programme under this head and larger areas were traversed, especially in Monghyr and Patna, than had originally been provided for, while in other districts the programme was not quite fulfilled. The outturns generally obtained, in spite of difficulties occasioned by sickness of the surveyors in unhealthy tracts, and also by the indifference of the people at the beginning of the work in the preliminary demarcation of new areas, were satisfactory. Of the 3,695 square miles of traverse survey, 747 were in the Monghyr district, 735 in the Sonthal Parganas (Damin-i-koh Government estate), 728 in Purnea, 608 in Backergunge and 540 in Singhbhum. Cadastral maps were made under the direction of the Superintendent, Provincial Surveys, for 1,244 square miles, and records were written for 1,416 square miles. The programme under these heads was fully attained or exceeded in all districts. Cadastral survey was practically confined to the Monghyr (741 square miles) and Darbhanga (413 square miles) districts, and record-writing to the same districts (729 and 597 square miles respectively). The cost of traverse survey ranged from Rs. 29·4 a square mile in Monghyr and Patna to Rs. 75·2 in Backergunge. In the latter district the work has been newly started, labour is expensive, and on account of the nature of the country boats have to be kept for the use of surveyors.

Settlement Operations.

322. Settlements were in progress during the year in ten districts belonging to five out of the nine Divisions of this Presidency. The area embraced was 11,824 square miles, and the number of villages dealt with 14,504. The area cadastrally surveyed during the year on the scale of 16″ to the mile was 2,296 square miles, while preliminary records were written for 2,971 villages. Records were attested in 1,212 villages, and finally published in 1,309 villages. The rents of 47,695 tenants were settled. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 5,13,042.

The objects with which these extensive operations were undertaken were of a varied character. In Darbhanga and Monghyr they formed a part of the great project which has been at work since 1892, in the districts of North Bihar, for recording and establishing the statutory tenant-right of the raiyats of that part of these Provinces. The extraordinary complexity of landed interests in Backergunge has led to serious disturbances, and the object of this settlement is to give peace to the district by preparing an authoritative record of all titles in land. In Gaya disputes between a landlord and his tenants have reached such a stage that a record-of-rights is necessary to settle them. The survey and settlement of the Damin-i-Koh Government estate is being made with a view to the re-settlement of Government revenue and was commenced in the cold weather of 1899-1900. It has been decided that, so far as the Paharia country is concerned, unless the Paharias themselves apply for settlement, work is to be confined to a demarcation of the line which divides the settled from the unsettled villages or groups of villages, and that settlement of Paharia lands shall be undertaken only when the request is made by a *manjhi* (village headman) or *Tikridar* (one who holds a portion of a hill).

In certain private estates in the Sonthal Parganas the proprietors have applied for a resettlement in order to get rent assessed upon large areas which their tenants have brought under cultivation since their rents were last fixed. During the year principles for the fixation of rents in the villages to be resettled were approved by Government. It has been laid down that where the Settlement Officer has grounds to believe that any of the first-class *dhani* (rice) lands are first-class in virtue of the raiyats' special exertions (such as the construction of embankments) other than those performed in the ordinary course of agriculture, he should, without waiting for the raiyats to take the initiative, assess such lands at second-class and not first-class rates. Where the assessment, legitimate though it may be, still appears to be heavier than the raiyats can be called on suddenly to bear, recourse is to be had to progressive enhancements, the increase for the first five years being limited to 50 per cent. and for the remainder of the settlement to 75 per cent.

The settlement of the Porahat Estate with its dependent tenures, covering an area of 791 square miles, was also undertaken by Government at the request of the proprietors. The traverse survey, which commenced in November 1900, was completed by the Bengal Survey Department in February 1902. It was directed during the year that there should be no

assessment of the uplands on this estate at present held without payment of rent, except on the application of the landlord, and that, where such lands are assessed, the rent imposed should be light, varying from two annas to four annas and, in exceptional cases of permanent cultivation of valuable crops, to eight annas a bigha.

In 1894 all waste lands in the Porahat Estate not held by tenants were constituted protected forests under the Indian Forest Act. In terms of the indenture by which the estate was restored to Kumar Narpat Singh all these forests are under the management of the Bengal Forest Department. To ensure better management of the forests it has been decided that in the course of the present operations suitable compact blocks should be demarcated, to be retained under the management of the Forest Department, and that the rest of the waste lands should be released to the proprietor.

On the 15th of April 1901 there were 5 Settlement Officers and 42 Assistant Settlement Officers employed. More of the latter were employed than in 1900, on account of the heavy attestation programme in Darbhanga and the commencement of settlement work in Monghyr and Singhbhum.

Recovery of Survey and Settlement Cost.

323. The recovery work in Darbhanga, where only Rs. 198 now remains due out of a demand of Rs. 4,37,880, payable by nearly half-a-million landlords and tenants, has been extraordinarily successful, and only cost five per cent. In Chittagong this work has not been so successful, no doubt because of the greater intricacy of the tenures in that district and because the work was undertaken some time after the records had been finally published. At the end of the year there was a balance due of Rs. 61,917,—Rs. 50,458 from landlords and Rs. 11,459 from tenants.

Miscellaneous.

324. A camp for the training of Junior Civilians in survey and settlement work was organised by the Settlement Officer, North Bihar, at Beguserai, and seven officers were trained there. The Survey and Settlement Manual of 1895 has been revised and issued as the Manual of 1900. A satisfactory green ink has been prepared and will be utlised in future for writing settlement records, and for correcting settlement records deposited in Collectorate record-rooms. Government sanction has been given to the reproduction by a new and cheap process of zincography of 10 copies of each of the 21,950 cadastral sheets of Orissa and Chittagong, and at the end of the year 8,000 sheets had been reproduced.

MINOR OPERATIONS.

Surveys and Settlements.

325. Minor surveys by non-professional agency were conducted in connection with petty settlements throughout the Lower Provinces, but the most important were in the districts of Noakhali, Faridpur, Dacca, Mymensingh and Tippera.

Settlements of Government and temporarily-settled estates gave a net increase in the revenue of Rs. 1,29,418. The increase is mainly due to original settlements and re-settlements in the Sundarbans (Rs. 66,000) and to re-settlements in Tippera (Rs. 21,000), the 24-Parganas (Rs. 7,000), Monghyr (Rs. 8,000) and Balasore (Rs. 8,000). There were 779 settlements pending at the close of the year, against 734 in the previous year.

During the year a total area of 69,134 acres in 256 villages within Government estates was under settlement, under the Bengal Tenancy Act, under the supervision of Commissioners of Divisions, at a total expenditure of Rs. 10,924. The greater portion of the area under settlement (51,951 acres) was in Tippera. Out of 197 villages in this area the records of 170 were finally published by the end of the year.

Land Records.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for the year 1901-1902.]

326. There is little to record on the subject of the maintenance of land records. The Land Records Maintenance Act, III (B.C.) of 1895, which was extended to portions of two surveyed districts only, has failed to secure the proper record of mutations of names in settlement records. The Act provides for the voluntary registration by all classes of tenants of mutations caused by inheritance and transfers of other kinds that are not otherwise

brought to the notice of the local Registrars and Sub-Registrars. It also provides that all transfers of landed property registered by these officers as Registrars of Assurances shall be brought by them automatically into the Mutation Registers. The real success of the scheme depends upon the extent to which advantage is taken by the tenants of the opportunity given for the voluntary registration of successions and other minor transfers, and it is in this respect that the Act has failed conspicuously. In the first year of the full working of the Act (1897-98) the number of such registrations under the Act, in the three mutation offices experimentally opened at Bettiah in Champaran, and Hajipur and Mahnar in Muzaffarpur, fell far short of the probable number of transactions, and the number of registrations has since steadily fallen off.

The Act having failed to secure the end for which it was passed, the question of continuous maintenance of the settlement records in the cadastrally surveyed districts of the Province by a permanent land records staff, or of revision of the records by regular survey at intervals, has been under the consideration of the Government of India.

Rules in the Survey and Settlement Manual provide for the registration of mutations of tenant rights and for inspection and correction of rent-rolls in Government estates and Wards' estates. The returns submitted to the Director of Land Records under these rules show that in Government estates managed khas, with a total number of 265,198 tenancies, 15,593 mutations were recorded, and that the rent-rolls of 52 per cent. of the total number of villages in the estates were inspected, with the result that 4,213 unreported mutations were detected; in Wards' estates with a total number of 502,013 tenancies, 9,681 mutations were recorded and the inspection of the rent-rolls of 62 per cent. of the villages during the year brought to light 11,635 unreported mutation cases. The rules in the Manual require to be carried out with greater regularity.

Waste Lands.

[Report of the Board of Revenue on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for 1901-1902.]

Rules for the lease of waste lands.

327. There are special rules for the lease of waste lands in the Sundarbans, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling and Chittagong. In other districts such lands form part of Government estates. In the Sundarbans two kinds of leases are given—(*a*) those for large capitalists, (*b*) those for smaller applicants. The maximum area granted under the former class is 5,000 bighas, except under the special orders of Government, the minimum being 200 bighas. The leases are sold at an upset price of one rupee an acre, when there is only one applicant, and to the highest bidder when there are more than one. The original term is fixed at 40 years, and resettlements are made for periods of 30 years. Leases of the second kind are given up to 200 bighas for 30 years, and are renewed for similar periods. There are separate rules for Saugor Island. There the maximum area granted is 10,000 bighas, and the leases are sold at an upset price of 8 annas an acre, when there is one applicant, and to the highest bidder when there are more than one, the lessees being bound to construct protective works and to keep them in repair. In Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling grants for tea cultivation consist ordinarily of areas not exceeding 1,500 acres. In the Western Duars of Jalpaiguri arable lands are leased to small capitalists up to a maximum area of 400 acres. In Chittagong small lots of waste land are leased, and each case is dealt with on its merits, the initial expenses of bringing the lands under cultivation and the quality of the lands being taken into consideration.

Leases during the year.

328. During the year 58,233 acres were leased in the Sundarbans to large capitalists, and 13,784 to small capitalists, and 4,446 acres under ordinary settlements. The eventual maximum rent will be Rs. 33,032, Rs. 45,607, and Rs. 2,690, respectively. The area leased up to date to large and small capitalists, respectively, is 39,061 and 25,487 acres, with an ultimate rental of Rs. 2,06,165 and Rs. 64,274, and the area under ordinary settlements 51,251 acres, with an ultimate rental of Rs. 33,363. There are also 127 leases granted under the rules of 1853, for a term of 99 years, with an area of 474,080 acres, and an eventual maximum revenue of Rs. 1,37,231. The present revenue is Rs. 1,18,768, against Rs. 1,16,329 in 1900-1901. The total area of land

under all kinds of leases, including ordinary settlements, in the Sundarbans at the close of the year was, therefore, 889,879 acres, with an eventual total revenue and rent demand of Rs. 4,41,033.

There were 41 applications during the year for waste lands in the Sundarbans, against 60 in the preceding year. Of these, 6, being for lands comprised in the reserved forest, were rejected. One lease, with an area of 1,583 acres, was sold, as compared with 37 in the previous year, with an area of 76,397 acres. The sale fetched Rs. 1,583, against Rs. 1,03,009 in 1900-1901, thus giving an average of one rupee, as against Re. 1-5-7 per acre. The decrease in sales is ascribed to delay in dealing with applications in consequence of the suspension of the late Commissioner in the Sundarbans, who was subsequently criminally convicted of embezzlements in connection with his work of surveying and settling waste lands and dismissed the service of Government. Eight lots, with an area of 166,543 bighas, were surveyed.

In Jalpaiguri 7,203 acres were leased for ordinary cultivation and 105 for tea, of which the eventual maximum revenue will be Rs. 3,601 and Rs. 79, respectively. The area leased up to date for ordinary cultivation and for tea, respectively, is 207,365 and 257,305 acres, with an ultimate revenue of Rs. 1,36,485 and Rs. 1,91,644. There were 1,956 applications for 113,631 acres of waste land for ordinary cultivation, including 770 pending from the previous year. Of these, 307 were applications for land within the late Colonel Hedait Ali's estate, which could not be disposed of during the year, as the question of the final resumption of these lands has not been settled. Of the rest of the applications 624 were struck off, the lands applied for not being available for settlement, while 206 were disposed of by the issue of leases. The balance remaining for disposal was 819.

Government Estates.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for the year 1901-1902.]

Agency and mode of Management.

329. The total number of estates under direct management during the year was 2,985, of which 240 belonged to private individuals, the remainder being the property of the Government. The current demand of the private estates was Rs. 5,87,265, and of those belonging to the Government, Rs. 36,39,296. The percentage of the cost of management on the current demand was 6·7, against 6·1 in the preceding year. A portion of the khas mahal establishment in the Province was declared permanent and pensionable, and the staff employed in certain districts was revised. Otherwise there has been no material change either in the managing agency or in the mode of management.

Sale and alienation of Government Lands.

330. Sixty-eight petty Government estates, covering an area of 719 acres, in the Burdwan, Presidency, Rajshahi, Dacca, Patna, Bhagalpur and Orissa Divisions were sold during the year for the sum of Rs. 14,479, subject to a total Government revenue demand of Rs. 1,543. The sales exceeded those of the preceding year, when 16 estates, with a total area of 134 acres, were sold for a total amount of Rs. 1,978.

Grants for Management and Agricultural, Sanitary and Miscellaneous works of Improvement.

331. The amount placed at the disposal of the Board for the management and improvement of Government estates during the year was Rs. 5,65,000. The distribution made amounted to Rs. 5,41,727, leaving a reserve of Rs. 23,273 to meet unforeseen expenditure. Rupees 2,83,471 were spent on management, and Rs. 2,52,515 on improvements. In some of the Divisions there were large unspent balances, but the Board have now, with the approval of Government, adopted the plan of making a provisional allotment, in anticipation of the receipt of Government orders sanctioning the total grant for the Province. More time will thus be available to the District officers for carrying out the works of each year. In the 24-Parganas a sum of Rs. 30,000 was spent in the execution of a part of the project for the construction of new buildings and sheds in the Orphangunge market. The total estimated expenditure of the project is Rs. 2,20,000 which it is proposed to spread over a period of nine years.

Expenditure on Education, Roads and Communications.

332. The total expenditure on education in Government estates was Rs. 79,021, against Rs. 66,588 in the previous year. The number of schools and pupils returned is 1,875 and 54,330, while the figures for the year 1900-1901 were

1,326 and 38,430, respectively. The large increase under both heads suggests some mistake in the figures, and further enquires are being made. The expenditure on roads and communications in Government estates amounted to Rs. 1,04,316 against a Government grant of Rs. 67,060. The expenditure exceeded the grant in all the Divisions except the Dacca, Patna and Bhagalpur Divisions. The excess was provided from District Board, Municipal, or other local funds.

Condition of Raiyats.

333. The condition of the raiyats of Government estates in Bengal Proper was generally good, but there were exceptions due to calamities of seasons in the districts of Hooghly, Bankura, Midnapore, the 24-Parganas and Chittagong. The effects of the storm-wave of 1897 have not entirely disappeared in Chittagong. In the Bihar districts the condition of the raiyats of Government estates was on the whole good, but unusual floods caused damage on *diara* estates in Patna, Shahabad, Saran, Monghyr and Purnea. In the Chota Nagpur Division the raiyats of the Government estates of Hazaribagh, Palamau and Singhbhum were not prosperous. In the Palamau estate there have been bad seasons and numerous desertions in recent years, and the condition of the raiyats thereon is receiving the special attention of the Board and the local officials.

Inspection of Accounts.

334. The usual inspections were made of the accounts of Government estates, but few material irregularities were brought to light. To guard against future embezzlements and secure general efficiency the rules in section II, chapter III of the Board's Rules, 1896, have been revised and additional instructions framed for the guidance of managers of Government estates, and inspecting officers. The revised rules have been incorporated in a new manual called the Government Estates Manual, and have been issued in pamphlet form for the use of officers employed on Government and Ward's estates.

Wards' and Attached Estates.

[Report of the Board of Revenue on the Wards' and Attached Estates in the Lower Provinces for 1901-1902.]

Number of Estates under Management.

335. In all 140 estates were under management during the year, or five more than in the previous year. Of these, 66 were Wards' estates, 4 attached estates, 7 Trust estates and 63 Encumbered estates. The aggregate current demand of these estates on account of rents and cesses amounted to 119¼ lakhs of rupees, or about one-fifteenth of the whole cess and rent demand of these Provinces. The Burdwan Raj, which with its rental of 48 lakhs and land revenue of nearly 35 lakhs was much the most important estate under the management of the Board, has passed into the hands of its proprietor after 17 years' management by the Court of Wards. The estates next in importance, viz., Bettiah, Hatwa and Tikari, are all in the Patna Division; 70 of the estates, including all the Encumbered estates, are in the Chota Nagpur Division.

Payment of Rent and Cesses.

336. The Revenue and cesses due to Government were generally punctually paid, the total payments representing 98 per cent. of Rs. 56,34,430, which was the total demand of the year. The outstandings due to superior landlords were much heavier in proportion, as out of a total current and arrear demand of Rs. 5,74, 738 only Rs. 4,42,451 were paid.

Co lections of Rent and Cesses.

337. The total collections of rent and cesses during the year just exceeded 100 per cent. on the current demand, a percentage not quite so high as that of the preceding year, 100·4, which, however, was the highest percentage obtained in twenty years with one exception. The Bhagalpur Division did least well with a percentage of 87·8 per cent., and Orissa did best with a percentage of 108·9 obtained by good collections in the Kanika and Madhupur estates. Other districts in which collections were over 105 per cent. were Dinajpur, Chittagong, Saran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga.

Balances were slightly reduced, and the total decrease would have been larger but for poor collections in Sujamutha and Kujang, where there was failure of crops. More rent suits were instituted, and for larger sums than in the previous year, the figures being 3,989 and Rs. 9,03,979 as against 3,657 and Rs. 4,01,485 in 1900-1901. There was, however, a larger decrease in the number of certificates filed, which fell from 11,875 to 10,932, the decrease being shared by all Divisions except Burdwan, Chittagong and Orissa. On the whole, the collections in a year of deficient harvests were generally good.

338. Altogether twelve and-a-half lakhs of debts outstanding against the estates were paid during the year, and substantial reductions were made in the case of the Bettiah, Shiuhar and Satkhira estates, in the Khujwa estate and Mubarik Hussain estate in Saran, and in Mrs. Lucas's estate in Backergunge. In the case of two Encumbered estates in Chota Nagpur, which were released during the year, the debts had been fully paid, and in 27 more of the Encumbered estates, the payments on account of debt during the year exceeded the sums provided in the schemes of management. Reduction of Debts.

339. The total expenditure in all the estates, and schools, dispensaries and works of improvement amounted to Rs. 4,98,337, against Rs. 4,31,914 in 1900-1901. In the Burdwan Raj estate Rs. 30,150 were spent on education, Rs. 54,137 on works of improvement and Rs. 17,363 on dispensaries. The Hatwa estate, in the Patna Division, spent Rs. 43,008 on the Agricultural Farm at Sripur, Rs. 8,626 on wells and Rs. 16,329 on schools, besides maintaining three charitable dispensaries. The entire cost of the Dufferin Hospital at Bettiah is defrayed by the Bettiah Raj. The Narhan estate, in Darbhanga, maintains two out-patient dispensaries, and the construction of a third was completed during the year. The Tikari Raj also pays the charge of the dispensary there. In Khagra, in the Bhagalpur Division, Rs. 12,798 were spent on improvements.

At the Sripur Farm, Hatwa Estate, a great advance was made during the year in equipping it for its principal function of cattle-breeding. Buildings and paddocks were constructed, a large number of cattle imported and breeding operations commenced. Twenty-five acres of land there were under experimental cultivation. The Burdwan Raj Farm continued to do good and useful work and made a variety of agricultural experiments. Agricultural operations at the Tikari Raj Farm were much hampered for want of water.

340. The condition of the tenants in the various estates was generally good, and their relations with the managing agency, with rare exceptions satisfactory. Careful attention was paid during the year to the education of the various minors under the Court of Wards. The total cost of management was 7·6 per cent. on the current demand, against 7·2 per cent. in the previous year. Of the 18 estates with annual rent and cess demands of over Rs. 50,000, the audit of the accounts for 1900-1901 of seven was completed within the year under report, that of four has been finished since the close of the year, and that for two estates commenced.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for the year 1901-1902; Divisional Annual Miscellaneous Reports for the year 1901-1902.]

341. The relations between landlords and tenants during the year 1901-1902 are thus summarised by the Commissioners of Divisions. Relations between landlords and tenants.

In the *Burdwan Division* relations were generally peaceful in all the districts except Midnapore where they were not, on the whole, satisfactory. The landlords in this district are said to be apathetic and jealous of the tenants whose condition has of late years improved considerably owing to the fixity of their tenures and the increase in the price of staple food-crops. The Commissioner of the *Presidency Division* reports that relations were generally satisfactory in the 24-Parganas, Murshidabad and the greater part of Jessore, but relations are strained in Nadia, and in Khulna the servants of the zamindars, who are mostly non-resident, are generally ill-paid and unscrupulous. Honourable mention is made of some of the zamindars in the Division. The Commissioner of the *Rajshahi Division* reports that the landlords have, on the whole, behaved with propriety in the Rajshahi district, and that the state of things in Dinajpur is good. In Rangpur dissatisfaction was caused by levy of a large cess by one of the principal zamindars, a non-resident, during his visit to the district; on this case suitable orders were passed by the Lieutenant-Governor. In Bogra there was some tension of relations; and in Pabna a special enquiry was made by the Commissioner during his cold weather tour under the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor, with the result of establishing that there was much friction between landlords and tenants and need for firmer administration of the district. In the *Dacca Division* the Commissioner reports

that for the most part landlords and tenants get on well together and, as a rule, it is only when the zamindar employs unscrupulous agents or aims at enhancing rents unduly that any serious tension arises. Instances of tension came prominently under the notice of the authorities only in the Mymensingh and Faridpur districts. In the *Chittagong Division* relations between landlords and tenants continued to be peaceful; in parts of Tippera disputes attracted attention of the authorities. In the *Patna Division* the Commissioner writes that, on the whole, the relations between landlords and tenants have been satisfactory. The increase of rent-suits in the North Bihar districts, which has followed the survey proceedings, is noticed below. The Magistrate of Patna recommends that the cadastral survey should be extended to that district. In the *Bhagalpur Division* the Commissioner states that, on the whole, relations are fairly satisfactory, but he makes important exceptions in the case of all the districts of the Division. In *Orissa* with unimportant exceptions relations are reported to be satisfactory, but in this Division also a great increase in the number of rent-suits has followed the settlement proceedings. In *Chota Nagpur* relations are strained, except in Palamau and Manbhum, where large areas are under the direct management of the District Officers. The survey proceedings, which have been initiated in the Ranchi district, will, it is hoped, be of the greatest benefit in settlement of agrarian disputes between the landlords and an excitable tenantry.

Working of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

342. The Bengal Tenancy Act has worked smoothly and is becoming better known. The Board report that the levy of illegal cesses in addition to the rent is a very old practice throughout the Province which has remained practically unchecked by the provisions re-enacted in the Tenancy Act for its repression; but in the northern districts of Bihar, for which a record-of-rights has been made, the tenants are acquiring a good knowledge of their rights and the landlords also respect them. Except in Bihar, where payment of rent in kind is more prevalent than elsewhere in the Province, application to the Revenue Officers for the appraisement or division of crops is rare. Landlords seldom observe the provisions of the law, requiring them to file a notice of re-entry upon lands in the Collector's office, and abandoned holdings are generally occupied by them without notice. The reluctance on the part of the landlords to take landlords' fees payable on transfers of permanent tenures and permanent holdings continues.

Increase of rent suits.

For the noticeable increase in the number of suits for recovery of rents in the surveyed districts of Bihar and Orissa the reasons assigned are chiefly that the settlement records have given facilities to the zamindars to prove the area and annual rental of tenancies and have given sturdiness to the tenant to withstand oppression; and in the case of Orissa that on account of the enhancement of the land revenue at the last settlement the zamindars cannot now afford to allow large arrears to remain outstanding, as they were accustomed to do when they enjoyed larger profits.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

Legislating Authority.

343. The local legislating authority in Bengal is the Bengal Legislative Council, which was established by Proclamation of the Governor-General of India in Council published in the *Calcutta Gazette* under Notification No. 289, dated the 17th January 1862. The Proclamation was made in exercise of powers conferred by section 44 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, and it took the form, contemplated by that section, of extending to Bengal the provisions of that Act touching the making of Laws and Regulations for the peace and good government of the Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay. The Proclamation was declared to take effect from the 18th January 1862, and the first meeting of the Council was held on the 1st February in that year. **The Bengal Legislative Council.**

The Council at first consisted of twelve members and President, namely, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. But, by section 1 (*2*) of the Indian Councils Act, 1892, the Governor-General in Council was empowered to increase the number of members up to a maximum of twenty, and by a Proclamation dated the 16th March 1893, the number was increased to twenty.

By Regulations made under the Indian Councils Act, 1892, which were published on the 17th March 1893, and revised on the 29th November 1899, and the 16th August, 1901, it is provided:—

(1) that not more than ten of the twenty members shall be officials;

(2) that nominations to seven seats shall be made on the recommendation of (*a*) the Corporation of Calcutta, (*b*) such Municipal Corporations or group or groups of Municipal Corporations (other than the Corporation of Calcutta) as the Lieutenant-Governor may prescribe, (*c*) such District Boards or group or groups of District Boards as the Lieutenant-Governor may prescribe, (*d*) such Association or Associations of Landholders as the Lieutenant-Governor may prescribe, (*e*) such Association or Associations of Merchants, Manufacturers or Tradesmen as the Lieutenant-Governor may prescribe, and (*f*) the Senate of the University of Calcutta—each of these six bodies having at least one Councillor nominated upon its recommendation, and the District Boards two Councillors; and

(3) that the Lieutenant Governor may, at his discretion, nominate persons to such of the remaining seats as shall not be filled by officials, in such manner as shall, in his opinion, secure a fair representation of the different classes of the community.

It is also provided by the same Regulations that persons recommended by Municipal Corporations or District Boards must be resident within the Municipality or District.

The nomination of members to the Council is made by the Lieutenant-Governor, subject to the sanction of the Governor-General (*see* the Indian Councils Act, 1861, section 45).

The legislative authority of the Bengal Council was declared by the Proclamation of 1862 to extend to all the provinces, districts and places administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. The Council has power to make laws for the peace and good government of these territories, and for that purpose to repeal and amend any laws and regulations made before the 1st August, 1861, by any authority in India; but it may not make laws which shall in any way affect any Act of Parliament (*see* the Indian Councils Act, 1861,

sections 42 and 48). The implied prohibition to repeal or amend laws made after the 1st August 1861, by any authority in India was removed by the Indian Councils Act, 1892, section 5, which authorised Local Legislatures to make such repeals and amendments with the previous sanction of the Governor-General.

It is further provided by section 43 (read with section 48) of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, that the Bengal Council may not, without the previous sanction of the Governor-General, make or take into consideration any laws for any of the following purposes, namely:—

(1) affecting the public debt of India, or the customs duties, or any other tax or duty now in force and imposed by the authority of the Government of India for the general purposes of such Government;
(2) regulating any of the current coin, or the issue of any bills, notes or other paper currency;
(3) regulating the conveyance of letters by the post-office or messages by the electric telegraph, within the Presidency;
(4) altering in any way the Penal Code of India, as established by Act of the Governor-General in Council, No. 45 of 1860;
(5) affecting the religion or religious rites and usages of any class of His Majesty's subjects in India;
(6) affecting the discipline or maintenance of any part of His Majesty's Military or Naval Forces;
(7) regulating patents or copyright; or
(8) affecting the relations of the Government with foreign Princes or States.

Revised rules for conduct of business in the Bengal Legislative Council were made by the Council on the 18th January 1890.

Laws passed by the Bengal Council are always called "Acts." They are subject to the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Governor-General, and no such Law has validity until the assent of the Governor-General has been signified to, and published by, the Lieutenant-Governor: if the Governor-General withhold his assent, the reason therefor must be signified by him to the Lieutenant-Governor in writing (*see* the Indian Councils Act, sections 39, 40, 48).

Any Act made by the Bengal Council may be disallowed by the Crown (*see* Indian Councils Act, sections 41, 48), or may be repealed or amended by an Act of the Governor-General in Council (*see Ib.*, section 22), or by a Regulation made by the Governor-General in Council under the Government of India Act, 1870 (33 and 34, Vic., c. 3), s. 1.

Legislation is not now the only work of the Bengal Legislative Council, for, by section 2 of the Indian Councils Act, 1892, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is empowered to make rules, with the sanction of the Governor-General in Council, for authorising the discussion of the Annual Financial Statement of the Government of Bengal, and the asking of questions at meetings of the Council.

The Act imposed the condition that no member should have power to submit or propose any resolution, or to divide the Council, in respect of any financial discussion or the answer to any question.

Rules under the Act were made on the 7th February, 1893. They require the Financial Statement to be explained in Council every year, authorise members to offer any observations upon it that they may wish, and give the Government a right of reply. They limit the discussion to those branches of revenue and expenditure which are under the control of the Local Government, and forbid criticisms of Imperial finance. The rules also impose the following restrictions on the right of asking questions:—

(*1*) questions may be asked as to those matters or branches of the Administration only which are under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor;
(*2*) questions must be mere requests for information, and must not be argumentative, hypothetical or defamatory;
(*3*) any question may be disallowed by the Lieutenant-Governor on the ground that it cannot be answered consistently with the public interests;
(*4*) no discussion is permitted in respect of any answer to a question.

344. In addition to the Bengal Legislative Council, the Governor-General in Council legislates for Bengal. Such legislation takes the form of— The Governor-General in Council.

(*1*) Acts passed at Legislative meetings under the Indian Councils Acts, 1861 and 1892, and

(*2*) Regulations made in Executive Council under the Government of India Act, 1870.

Acts of the Governor-General in Council affecting Bengal apply for the most part to other Provinces as well. They commonly apply to the whole of British India. Some such Acts have been passed for Bengal alone. But this has not been done for several years past, and it seems unlikely that this form of legislation for Bengal alone will be undertaken by the Governor-General in Council in the future, since section 5 of the Indian Councils Act, 1892, mentioned in paragraph 5 above, has provided a means for removing the bar which used to cripple the powers of the Local Legislature.

Regulations under the Government of India Act, 1870, are only made for backward tracts, such as the Angul district, the Chittagong Hill Tracts and the Sonthal Parganas, to which the Act is specially applied by Resolution of the Secretary of State for India in Council.

345. Lastly, Parliament retains power to legislate for Bengal in common with other British Possessions. Parliament

Course of Legislation.

346. No Act was passed by the Bengal Council during the year 1901-1902. Only one Bill was introduced in Council, namely, a Bill to extend the Calcutta Electric Lighting Act, 1895, to the Howrah Bridge, which was, after the close of the year, passed into Law as Bengal Act I of 1902. A Bill to amend the Salt Law in Bengal was introduced in Council on the 23rd April 1898, but no action has been taken by the Council upon it since that date. Bills passed and Pending.

Police.

[The Report on the Administration of the Police Department for the year 1901; Judicial and Administrative Statistics for British India, Section VII.]

347. During the past eighteen months this Government has made a very close and detailed examination of the present system of Police administration of the Province, and the result of the elaborate enquiries made has been to force upon the Lieutenant-Governor the conclusion that until far-reaching and costly changes in the present system in the direction both of strengthening the Police force generally and of bettering their prospects are carried out, no material or enduring improvement can be hoped for in this Department, though it calls more loudly for reform than any branch of the administration in the Province. To this end, proposals have been submitted to the Government of India for adding considerably to the superior cadre, for largely increasing and bettering the prospects of the inspecting and investigating agencies, and for securing the better conduct of police prosecutions before the Courts. Similarly, detailed proposals for the improvement of other portions of the force, including the Calcutta Police, the Municipal constabulary and Railway and River Police, have been more recently under consideration, and definite recommendations on these remaining branches of the whole subject have been formulated for the Government of India, and for the consideration of the Police Commission, who have lately visited Bengal. General.

348. Last year Government, while acknowledging that the force had been largely hampered by circumstances beyond its control, in particular by being undermanned and overworked, pointed out the advantageous results to be expected from a more judicious employment of the discretion to abstain from enquiries into petty cases of theft and burglary, and from a wiser and more sympathetic treatment of the village chaukidar. That these remarks have been taken to heart is shown by the fact that during the year under report chaukidari administration generally has been more effective than in the preceding year,

and that the percentage of refusals to investigate under section 157, Criminal Procedure Code, has risen from 7·4 to 20·5 in house-breaking cases, and from 10·1 to 14·1 in cases of theft.

Of the total cases not enquired into, 98 per cent. were cases of house-breaking and theft. The following percentages (of cases not enquired into) deal with these 98 per cent. of the total number of cases:—

Division.	House-breaking.		Theft.	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
Burdwan	18·4	28·7	10·1	14·0
Presidency	5·4	12·1	6·3	7·9
Rajshahi	4·5	10·5	13·0	17·7
Dacca	8·0	16·3	4·3	15·7
Chittagong	8·6	17·9	16·9	24·7
Patna	4·2	23·9	2·9	5·6
Bhagalpur	9·6	26·9	3·6	6·3
Orissa	2·2	5·0	26·2	31·9
Chota Nagpur	5·3	22·2	8·8	6·0

Thus in every Division there has been an improvement under both heads. These percentages are still far below the standards which might properly be attained, but they undoubtedly show that at last a real endeavour has been made by the local officers to carry out the wishes of Government in the matter.

349. In view of this advance, and of the improvement in chaukidari administration, it would naturally be expected that the results for the year, on which the working of the police is judged, would be better than those of the preceding year. As a matter of fact, the percentage of persons convicted in police cases under classes I—V to those sent up for trial has fallen slightly from 56 to 54, and that of persons convicted under classes I—VI from 71 to 69.

Turning to the number of cases, the percentages of convictions to cases sent up have fallen as follows:—

	Police cases only.		Police and Magistrates' cases together.	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
(*a*) Grand total	86·4	85·9	83·7	83·0
(*b*) Class III. Serious offences against property	74·3	73·2	70·4	69·9
(*c*) Class V. Minor offences against property	79·1	78·5	74·6	73·2

An examination of the divisional and district figures in detail shows that as was to be expected these fluctuations are the net outcome of rises of percentages in certain districts and Divisions and of falls of percentages in others, and further enquiry will be made as to the cause of these variations. Whatever may be the ultimate effect of a new measure, it is certain that the immediate effects in different districts will vary according to the attitude towards it and interest in it of the district authorities, and the Inspector-General has been asked to devote his special attention to the district analysis prepared under the orders of Government, an attentive study of which should yield useful material for further assistance in this matter. It may be that a still wider employment of the discretion to dispense with local investigation given by section 157, Criminal Procedure Code, and continued care in developing the chaukidari agency may enable the police eventually to arrive at better results, but an examination of the figures of the year under review confirms the conclusions previously formed as to the necessity for large improvements in the numbers and prospects of the police force generally.

Strength, health and cost of the force employed.

350. The strength of the various branches of the police force under the control of the Inspector-General was much the same as in the previous year. Fifty-two Sub-Inspectors were appointed after competitive examination and 33 by nomination, while 72 appointments were made by promotion of head-constables. One hundred and thirty-one students received training during the year at the Bhagalpur Training School. The total number of casualties and

the average daily percentage of sick were much as in 1900. The total expenditure on police during the year was Rs. 51,70,482, or Rs. 71,078 in excess of that in the preceding year.

Additional and Special Police.

351. During the year a total force of 8 Sub-Inspectors, 17 head-constables and 158 constables were appointed, in 11 cases, additional police under section 15, Act V of 1861. In two cases in Mymensingh and one in Patna similar police appointed in 1900 were retained in 1901. One thousand two hundred and ninety-seven persons were appointed special police under section 17, Act V of 1861 : the majority were appointed for a short time only for the preservation of peace during the *Bakrid* and the *Muharrum*.

Conduct of the force.

352. The conduct of the police during the year, as shown by the punishments inflicted upon them judicially and departmentally, has been on the whole satisfactory. Only one case of torture was returned as true, and in 26 cases of extortion punishment (judicial or departmental) was inflicted. None of the cases presented any features of importance. The number of men in the District and Railway police holding good-conduct stripes increased from 12,109 to 12,914, and of those holding three or more stripes from 4,635 to 5,111.

Crime.

353. The total number of cognizable offences reported during the year (178,646) was only 250 below that of 1900 and more than 30,000 in excess of the decennial average. The increase, as compared with 1899, is almost entirely under the head of offences against property, and is undoubtedly the result of the high prices which prevailed during the year to even a more marked extent than in 1900. Non-cognizable crime shows a small decrease from the previous year's figures of about 4 per cent., the number of cases being 125,075 as compared with 130,893 in 1900.

354. The chief fluctuation in the offences shown under class I appears under "rioting," which returns 79 cases more than in the previous year. The number of true cases (2,068) is considerably below the quinquennial average, but the unsatisfactory feature of the figures is the number of cases attended with loss of life. Last year's total of such cases (61) was considerably above the average of preceding years, and this year the number has risen to 73. This unsatisfactory state of things is apparently not the result of any retrogression in the preventive measures taken under sections 106 and 107, Criminal Procedure Code; for, though the number of cases instituted under these sections during 1901 is considerably below that of 1900, rather more persons were bound down than in the previous year. The reason is probably to be found in the fact that the police in some districts report under section 107, Criminal Procedure Code, against the wrong persons, and that in others, Magistrates fail to bind down parties who have been properly reported against. Magistrates have been reminded of the necessity for thoroughly satisfying themselves, before striking off proceedings in such cases, that the cause of dispute no longer exists, as a specious compromise is often filed in Court merely to give the parties an opportunity of going back to their villages and settling their disputes in another and less peaceful fashion. The figures under class II show no great variation from those of the previous year. The number of cases of murder and of grievous hurt has slightly decreased, and there has been a very satisfactory diminution in the number of outrages on women in Mymensingh. Judicial results under this class have been generally bad. The percentage of cases convicted to cases decided has fallen from 58 to 54, and of persons convicted to persons tried from 52 to 47. Murder trials have been particularly unsuccessful. The percentage of convictions to cases is only 41 as against 45 in 1900, and only 24 per cent. of those put on their trial have been found guilty of the offences charged against them.

355. Under class III dacoities show an increase of 17 cases, though the total number of cases (358) is practically the same as the quinquennial average. It is to be regretted that the efforts made to repress this most serious form of crime apparently indigenous in Bengal have so far been unsuccessful, and the Inspector-General has been asked to give this class of offence his particular attention during the current year. The Presidency Division is the only one which shows any considerable fluctuation from the figures of the previous year. The district of the 24-Parganas returns no fewer than 32 true cases, and

it is to be hoped that the special measures taken in this district towards the end of the year will have the effect of largely checking this form of crime. It is satisfactory to find that convictions under this head show material improvement over the figures of the preceding year. Burglary and theft cases numbered 2,023 more than they did in 1900, when the figures were unusually high. The small increase as compared with the preceding year may possibly, as suggested by the Inspector-General, be the outcome of improved reporting consequent on the increased use by the police of their power to refuse investigation, as well as of the pressure caused by high prices. With regard to the use made by the police of section 157, Criminal Procedure Code, it is difficult to understand the extraordinary variations which appear in the divisional figures on this subject. The Orissa police investigate 95 per cent. of their house-breaking cases and only 68 per cent. of their theft cases. The police of the Patna Division, on the other hand, investigate 94½ per cent. of theft cases and only 76 per cent. of burglary cases. Similarly, in the Bhagalpur and Presidency Divisions, 94 and 92 per cent., respectively, of theft cases are enquired into. In the Chittagong Division, only 75 per cent. of such cases are investigated. An absolutely uniform standard is neither possible nor desirable, but there is nothing to show that there is any sound reason for these wide fluctuations, which would appear to be the result of divergent interpretations by the local investigating officers of the instructions on the point issued for their guidance, and the Inspector-General has been requested to make an examination of the figures brought to notice with a view to seeing whether a closer approach to uniformity cannot be achieved.

356. The number of persons bound down in bad-livelihood cases has increased from 4,127 to 4,410. Of the 3,782 cases instituted, only 2,061 were tried locally. The Patna Division is the worst in this respect. Of 1,318 cases instituted, only 585 were tried in the villages of the accused. Of the 1,042 persons from whom security was demanded, the security of only 44, or 4 per cent., was accepted. Practically, every one of the cases instituted in the Division was taken up on a report by the police or after investigation by them, and in view of this and of the divisional attitude in the matter of taking security, as well as of the fact that of the total number of persons in Bengal sent to jail for bad livelihood the Patna Division contributes nearly one-half, the Commissioner has been asked to report whether a much larger proportion of these cases cannot be tried locally in the districts under him.

357. A satisfactory feature of the year is the decrease in the number of maliciously false cases from 5,439 in 1900 to 5,190 in 1901: the percentage of these to cases reported has steadily declined during the last four years, and is now only 2·9. The Patna Division returns the highest percentage (4·0), and the Patna district the largest number of cases (426). It is disappointing to find that in only 19 of the latter were prosecutions instituted. Conviction on these charges is as a rule very difficult to secure, but it would seem better to take the risk of an acquittal rather than encourage those who harass their neighbours by bringing such cases, in the belief that they can do so with impunity.

Remands and reconvictions.

358. The figures under remands are worse than they were last year, the percentage of cases decided on the first two hearings having fallen from 53·3 to 49·2. Pabna, which was at the bottom of the list last year and the year before, is now last but one; and Manbhum, which in 1900 was last but one, is now actually the last. In the matter of re-convictions the usual divergencies appear in the district percentages of previous convictions, which vary from 22 in Muzaffarpur to 3½ in Jalpaiguri. From the Darbhanga figures as compared with those of the district for the two previous years, and the Divisional figures for the three years 1899—1901, only one of two inferences can be drawn—either that old offenders, though they still have a weakness for the other districts of the Division, have given up going to Darbhanga to commit crime, or that the local officers have not attached sufficient importance to the desirability of proving, wherever possible, previous convictions. Good work continued to be done by the Criminal Identification Department. The total number of slips on record in the Department at the end of the year was 55,970, showing an increase of 11,152 during 1901. During the year 1,174 references to the Department were made by the Provincial Police regarding persons not locally identified. Five

hundred and fifteen persons were traced in these cases as old offenders by their finger-impressions, the percentage of success being 43·8 against 43·4 in the previous year. In all there were 6,209 references to the Department, and in 1,259 cases the persons concerned were traced.

Village chaukidars.

359. The process of substituting chaukidars under Act VI (B.C.) of 1870 for the men under the old Regulation XX of 1817, and for those holding service lands, has continued during the year, and the dafadari system is now in force practically throughout the Province. Difficulty continues to be experienced in getting high-caste men to enlist as chaukidars. Payments to chaukidars during the year have been more regular, and, as already remarked, there has been a satisfactory improvement in chaukidari administration generally throughout the Province. The percentage of men rewarded has risen from 7·3 to 11·1. As usual, the difference in the treatment meted out to chaukidars in the various districts is very striking. In Puri, it was found necessary to punish 28 per cent. of the chaukidari force; in Balasore, only 3·8 were punished. In Hooghly, 33 per cent. came in for punishment; in the neighbouring districts of Midnapore and Howrah, 7 and 8 per cent., respectively, only were punished. In Nadia, over 51 per cent. were punished, only 3½ per cent. rewarded: corresponding percentages in Dinajpur are 41 and 4½: yet the Nadia Reward Fund closed with a balance of Rs. 3,599; that of Dinajpur with one of Rs. 4,144; Purnea fined 16½ per cent. of its chaukidars, and rewarded 1 per cent. In view of the importance attaching to the judicious and considerate treatment of the members of this valuable adjunct to the police force of the Province, Commissioners have been asked to carefully examine the figures of their respective districts, with a view to seeing that Magistrates and District Superintendents do not allow punishments and rewards to be a mere matter of routine, but satisfy themselves that punishments are awarded only where merited, and that rewards are given wherever deserved, provided the state of the Chaukidari Fund allows of it. The Government of India have recently sanctioned the introduction of the system of recognizing merit on the part of chaukidars by the grant to them of silver badges, which, if consistently and intelligently administered, should have the effect of materially improving the work of the chaukidars throughout the Province. Rewards to chaukidars have increased from Rs. 41,692 in 1899 and Rs. 47,600 in 1900 to Rs. 55,655 in 1901. In a number of districts, however, the rewards distributed during the year have been low in amount: where no satisfactory reason has been given for the small amounts distributed, the officers responsible have been called on to explain why larger sums were not expended.

The average amount paid as rewards varies enormously in the districts; in those where the Reward Fund is low, the amount must of necessity be small, but in Rangpur, where the Fund closed with a balance of nearly Rs. 8,000, it is at least open to consideration whether the average reward of Rs. 2 and a fraction might not be materially increased. In Pabna, though 28 per cent. of the chaukidars were punished, only Rs. 979 were paid in rewards. Last year only Rs. 496 were so expended, and yet it appears that the fund closed with a balance of Rs. 7,823. The Commissioner has been asked to report whether this large balance is really due to the fact that so few of the chaukidars have merited rewards. In certain other districts, though the sums credited to the Chaukidari Fund were large and the balances were considerable, the payments were altogether inadequate, and the attention of the Magistrates has been called to the neglect of Government orders in these districts.

Suicides and accidental deaths.

360. There were 3,618 deaths reported as due to suicide against 3,410 in 1900. In 15 districts there were 100 or more deaths under this head. Cuttack, as usual, heads the list with 340, followed by Nadia, Jessore, Saran, Dacca and the 24-Parganas with 299, 235, 220, 192 and 175 deaths, respectively. In the remaining districts the numbers were below 150. One case reported as suicide in Jessore proved on enquiry to be murder, and a death in Khulna was ultimately found to be due to culpable homicide. Deaths by accident numbered 32,804 against 32,013 in the preceding year. Over 80 per cent. of these deaths were caused by drowning and snake-bite. Twenty-six cases reported in 12 districts as due to accidents were found on enquiry to be the result of violence amounting to murder or homicide. Rajshahi, Mymensingh and Bogra had, respectively, 6, 5 and 4 such cases.

Police Administartion in the Town of Calcutta.

[Report on the Police Administration of the Town of Calcutta and its Suburbs for 1901.]

361. The constitution of the Force under the control of the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, underwent practically no change during the year, and the number of casualties amongst its members, and of punishments inflicted, presents little variation from the figures of preceding years. The cost of the whole force employed, including those on salt and river duty, was Rs. 8,33,555.

Working of the Force.

362. As regards the working of the Force, the number, both of cognizable offences reported and of non-cognizable cases instituted, shows a remarkable decrease in comparison with the figures for the two preceding years—1899 and 1900. Under cognizable offences there were 25,115 cases reported, against 38,353 in 1900 and 34,282 in 1899. The diminution under the more serious heads of crime, offences against public tranquillity, persons and property calls for little notice, and the decrease is chiefly contributed by the figures under the more unimportant heads, such as "Public and Local Nuisances," "Police Act" and "Cruelty to Animals Act." There were, in 1900, 3,571 cases of public and local nuisances and 10,037 cases under the Police Act reported by the police, against 1,852 and 5,809, respectively, in 1901. Similarly, there were in 1901 only 3,602 offences reported under the Cruelty to Animals Act, as compared with 6,780 in 1900. These figures are of offences reported and not of prosecutions instituted, the percentage of the latter to cases reported, as also of the success of such prosecutions, being much the same in 1901 as in previous years.

363. The decrease under "Public and Local Nuisances" is fictitious, and due to the non-inclusion by the Chief Presidency Magistrate under this head of 2,000 (roughly) "drunk and disorderly cases" which have this year, for the first time, been shown under the Police Act. The explanation, however, makes the decrease in the figures under the "Police Act" the more remarkable. There is nothing to show that the number of "drunk and disorderly" cases in 1901 was less than in 1900; and, for the purposes of comparing the figures under the Police Act for the two years, it is necessary to eliminate from the figures for the later year the 2,000 cases which have now been shown there for the first time, with the result that the figures under this head fall from 10,037 in 1900 to 3,809 in 1901.

364. As regards the "Cruelty to Animals" cases, the number sent up by the Police shows little variation from that sent up by them in previous years, and the decrease noticed is due to the employment, by the Calcutta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, of fewer agents, and to diminished activity amongst the numbers so reduced since the general strike amongst the carters and hackney-carriage drivers which took place in Calcutta and its suburbs in June 1901.

365. With regard to the falling-off of offences under the Police Act, the Commissioner of Police attributes the result under this head to the fact that the men under him refrained from making arrests under clauses (3), (6) and (7) of section 66, Act IV of 1866, and the corresponding section in the Suburban Act, in order to minimise the chance of another strike. The sections in question contain provisions against the driving of carts, carriages or vehicles on the wrong side of the road, the leaving of such conveyances without due control and the obstruction of thoroughfares by such conveyances. The full enquiry into the strike of June 1901 brought out clearly that one of the chief causes which led to it was the habitual blackmailing by the police of hackney-carriage drivers and cartmen in Calcutta. On the figures for the past year there can thus be set only one of two interpretations—either that the Calcutta Police misused their powers under the Act even more seriously than appeared from the facts and figures before the Committee which enquired into the strike, or that since the strike the police have neglected to carry out the provisions of the law with regard to the regulation of traffic. It appears that the late Commissioner was of opinion that too much power was given to the rank and file of the police, and gave them to understand that such cases should be dealt with by officers of the Force only. This was, it is stated, one cause of the decrease. Another cause was that the police were unnerved by the

punishments inflicted on some of their number, so that they preferred to remain passive spectators of the infringement of the law. It is clear that they failed in the proper performance of their duties either before or after the strike. In view of the fact that there was within the last month a second, though abortive, attempt at a cart-strike in Calcutta, the Commissioner of Police has been asked to carefully scrutinize the figures of the current year, with a view to seeing that the attempted strike was not the outcome of revived practices of blackmailing on the part of the local police. In this connection it may be noted that the arrangements which have lately been sanctioned for the better supervision of the control of the cart-traffic between the East Indian Railway station at Howrah and the Strand Road should do much to put a final stop to such illegal practices so far as they affect the cartmen who ply within this area.

The large decrease in non-cognizable cases from 27,508 in 1900 to 9,640 in 1901 is almost entirely the result of a diminution under Municipal cases from 22,429 to 5,893. This is chiefly the outcome of the changes in procedure introduced by the new Municipal Act, which did not come into force till April 1900. Under the new Act the professional and license-tax, and the tax on carriages and animals, are generally realized without recourse to the Courts, and prosecutious are seldom resorted to. Thus, in 1900 there were 12,500 license-tax prosecutions, and only 69 in 1901. The figures for 1900 were also swollen by 4,245 cases under the old Act, all such cases being required by the Law to be filed before 1st April 1900.

366. The finger impressions of 1,971 persons charged with offences against property were taken during the year, with the result that in 763 cases the persons concerned were identified in the office of the Inspector-General of Police. There were 62 false cases in the town against 44 in 1900, and 20 in the suburbs against 29.

367. There has been an increase from 2,979 to 3,321 in the number of fire-arms, rifles, guns and pistols imported, and from 782 to 838 in the number of weapons purchased in India by dealers. During the present year restrictions have, however, been imposed on the importation of rifles and of Government bore ammunition, as also on the sale and possession of European revolvers and magazine pistols. **Working of the Arms Act (XI of 1878).**

368. There were altogether 106 fires reported in the town and suburbs of Calcutta and Howrah against 80 in the previous year. The Brigade was called out on 33 occasions. The total loss of property caused was estimated at Rs. 4,09,974, the two largest fires being at jute presses at Nawabputty and Sulkea. There was no loss of life by fire during the year. **Working of the Fire-Brigade.**

369. Sixty-four persons were sent to the Government Workhouse under section 15 of the Act, and three were received from Rangoon. Of these, and the nineteen remaining at the close of 1900, 32 were discharged on obtaining employment, 17 were released, 22 were removed from or left the Workhouse, and 15 remained at the end of the year. Five persons of European extraction were deported. **European Vagrancy Act (IX of 1874).**

370. There were 104 suicides during the year against 102 in 1900. In 55·7 per cent. of the cases death was caused by opium poisoning. There were 358 accidental deaths against 306 in 1900: and 43 persons were run over and killed by vehicles against 27 in the previous year. There were 283 prosecutions for rash and furious driving: in the majority of cases fines averaging Rs. 10 were imposed. Thirty-two juveniles were sent to the Reformatory School, and twelve persons dealt with under section 562, Criminal Procedure Code. **Miscellaneous.**

Criminal Justice.

[Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Lower Provinces of Bengal for 1901; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section IV.]

371. The area of the Lower Provinces of Bengal, subject to the administration of the High Court, and its local administrative divisions remained unchanged. The Court of a Municipal Magistrate for Calcutta was established with effect from the 1st February 1901, for the trial of offences against the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899, occurring in the town of Calcutta and the Municipal "added area" within the district of the 24-Parganas. Statistics of cases dealt with by the Municipal Magistrate are included in this chapter. **Jurisdiction of the High Court.**

Judicial Staff.

372. For Sessions work, the staff available during the year consisted of 29 Sessions Judges, employed throughout the year, and eight Additional Sessions Judges, of whom three were employed throughout the year and the remainder temporarily, for varying periods. There were also two officers vested with the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. These powers, however, were only exercised in one instance for 10 days in the year.

The Magisterial staff employed at the close of the year in the Province, including the Presidency town, consisted of 431 Stipendiary and 1,821 Honorary Magistrates. The former figure represents a decrease of 5 and the latter an increase of 18 on the numbers of the previous year. Three Special Magistrates were appointed under section 14, Criminal Procedure Code, of whom two did no criminal work during the year. The third was the Munsif of Hatia in the district of Noakhali; he is classed as a Special Magistrate exercising second class powers. Of the 431 Stipendiary Magistrates, 297 exercised first class powers, 95 second, and 39 third.

There were 195 Benches of Magistrates working during the year, which were constituted from among the Honorary Magistrates referred to above. Three new Benches were created in the 24-Parganas and one was abolished in each of the districts of Hooghly and Nadia. Of the total, 173 were independent, 22 were restricted to the trial of cases under the Municipal Acts, and two were presided over by Stipendiary Magistrates.

Offences reported.

373. There were 302,163 criminal offences reported to the Courts during the year, a decrease of 41,252 on the figures of 1900. Of the total, 202,614 were under the Indian Penal Code and 99,549 under Special Laws. These totals are less by 9,051 and 32,201, respectively, than those of the previous year. The decrease was most pronounced in the Courts in Calcutta.

Including cases pending inquiry at the close of 1900, the number of cases found to be false, or in which complaints were dismissed during the year, was 58,991, or 19·5 per cent. of the number reported during the year. The percentage in 1900 was 17·8. Of the total in 1901, complaints were dismissed in 48,648 cases, and 10,346 cases were declared to be false after trial or inquiry, the figures being less than those of 1900 by 963 and 1,330 respectively. Of the total number of cases under inquiry during the year, 243,875 were found to be true, and of these 173,474 were brought to trial. Inquiries were pending at the close of the year in 13,123 cases. Compared with the figures of the previous year the number of cases found to be true and of cases brought to trial were less than in 1900 by 37,971 and 24,163 respectively.

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

Magistrates' Courts.

374. Of the total number of cases brought to trial, 23,523 were in the Courts of the Police and Municipal Magistrates in the Presidency town and 149,951 in the Courts of Magistrates in the mufassal.

Presidency Magistrates, Calcutta.

375. Cases brought before Presidency Magistrates show a decrease of no less than 18,566, having fallen from 42,089 in 1900 to 23,523 in 1901. This very remarkable decrease is accounted for as follows:—Cases under the Municipal Act fell from 15,390 to 6,356; cases under the Police Act from 10,865 to 6,450; cases under the Act for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals from 6,181 to 3,280; and cases under the Penal Code from 7,182 to 4,975. The decrease in offences under the Indian Penal Code is accounted for by the fact that there were 1,852 fewer prosecutions for offences against the public health than in the previous year, the decrease in prosecution under other chapters of the Penal Code not having been considerable. The total decrease therefore, as noted above, is due not to any general diminution of crime, but to the fact of the special laws referred to having been brought into operation, by the authorities responsible in each case, to a far less extent than in the preceding year.

The relief afforded to the Courts by this decrease in work was considerable. It is sufficiently indicated by the fact that the number of witnesses examined by the Presidency Magistrates fell from 26,598 to 21,270. Occurring, as it did, simultaneously with the addition to the staff of a Municipal Magistrate, it did much to relieve the congestion which had previously existed in the Courts of the Presidency Magistrates.

Before Presidency Magistrates, other than the Municipal Magistrate, 16,994 cases were disposed of during the year, of which 12,265 were before Stipendiary

Magistrates, 2,639 before Honorary Magistrates sitting singly, and 2,090 before Benches. In 1900 the same officers disposed of 41,856 cases, of which 21,158 were before Stipendiary Magistrates, 16,041 before Honorary Magistrates sitting singly, and 4,657 before Benches. There were 89 cases pending at the close of the year. Of the total disposed of 36 were committed to the High Court and the remainder were finally decided by Magistrates, 3,706 being under ordinary, and the remainder under summary procedure. The number of witnesses examined before Police Magistrates was 16,732.

The number of cases brought before the Court of the Municipal Magistrate during the year was 6,693; of which, as noted above, 6,356 were cases under the Calcutta Municipal Act. Six thousand five hundred and thirty-five cases were disposed of, and 158 remained pending at the close of the year. All of the cases were decided under the summary procedure.

376. The aggregate number of persons under trial before Presidency Magistrates, other than the Municipal Magistrate, was 23,339. Of the persons tried, 3,016 were acquitted or discharged, 20,091 were convicted, 12 being released on probation under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 13 died, escaped or were transferred for trial to other Courts, 49 were committed to the Sessions, and 170 persons remained under trial at the close of the year. The results of the trials before Stipendiary Magistrates were:—acquitted or discharged, 1,166; convicted 15,152—percentage of convictions 92·8. Before Benches of Magistrates:—acquitted or discharged, 915; convicted, 2,227—percentage of convictions, 70·8, and before Honorary Magistrates sitting singly:—acquitted or discharged, 935; convicted, 2,712—percentage of convictions 74·3. **Result of Trials.**

Of the persons convicted, 1,649 were punished with rigorous imprisonment, 267 with simple imprisonment, 16,722 with fine, and 214 with whipping. The sentence of rigorous imprisonment in the case of three persons included a term of solitary confinement. Sixty of the persons punished with fines and 24 of those sentenced to whipping were so sentenced in addition to other punishments. Twenty-five sentences of imprisonment were, in the case of youthful offenders, commuted to detention in a Reformatory School.

In addition to these sentences, 81 persons were required to furnish security for good behaviour, 30 persons were ordered to execute bonds to keep the peace, 12 wese released on probation under section 562, Criminal Procedure Code, and various miscellaneous orders were passed under special laws.

Before the Municipal Magistrate 7,778 persons were under trial during the year, of whom 7,299 were convicted, 261 were acquitted or discharged, and 218 remained under trial at the end of it. The percentage of convictions was 96·5. Of the persons convicted 4,432 were punished with fines, and the rest were ordered to comply with the various requirements of the rules and bye-laws of the Corporation. The number of witnesses examined was 4,538.

MAGISTRATES OUTSIDE CALCUTTA.

377. Before Magistrates outside Calcutta there were 4,670 cases pending at the opening of the year. During the year 150,047 cases, including references under sections 347 and 349, Criminal Procedure Code, were brought to trial and 149,769 were disposed of, 4,818 remaining pending at its close. Cases brought to trial were fewer than in 1900 by 5,610. The decrease was chiefly under classes of offences relating to public servants, affecting public health, etc., and under special laws. There was a slight increase in cases against the public tranquillity and against property. It is unsatisfactory that, in spite of the fall in the number of cases coming before the Courts, the number pending at the close of the year was larger than at the close of 1900. **Cases and disposals.**

A decrease in cases was reported from 25 and an increase from 19 districts. The decrease was marked in the 24-Parganas (4,247), Midnapore (1,198), Howrah (374) and Darjeeling (358). The increase in the 19 districts referred to was greatest in Faridpur (928), Pabna (519), Hooghly (504) and Jessore (316). The apparent decline in the 24-Parganas is attributed to the trial of all cases under the Municipal Act, arising within a part of the jurisdiction of the district, by the Court of the Municipal Magistrate of Calcutta.

District Magistrates tried regularly 1449 cases, and summarily 267; corresponding figures were for Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates 74,116 and

30,218; for Honorary Magistrates 16,545 and 1,569, and for Benches of Magistrates 12,721 and 12,645. Special Magistrates tried regularly 99 cases and some summarily.

Of the 1,449 cases tried regularly by District Magistrates, 45 were decided by them under special powers under section 34, Criminal Procedure Code. In addition to the cases shown above, District Magistrates decided 140 cases referred to them under sections 347 and 349, Criminal Procedure Code.

There was a considerable increase in the number of cases disposed of by Honorary Magistrates sitting singly; and a corresponding decrease in the number of cases decided by Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates and by Bench Magistrates.

Results of Trials.

378. Of the total number of cases shown above, 1,852 were committed to Sessions and 149,769 were finally disposed of by Magistrates. In these latter 210,140 persons were accused, a number less by 2,120 than that of the preceding year. Of the total, 123,289, or 58·7 per cent., were convicted, and 86,851, or 41·3 per cent., were acquitted or discharged. The proportion of convictions was less than in 1900 by 2·6 per cent. The variations in the percentage of convictions in the different districts call for no comment.

Exclusive of persons mentally incapable of taking their trial, the total number of persons awaiting trial before Magistrates at the close of 1901 was 8,668, as compared with 8,217 of 1900. The number of persons in custody at the close of the year was 858.

The general result of trials before Benches of Magistrates was—acquitted or discharged 10,439, convicted 18,985, percentage of convictions 64·5. Similar figures for Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates were 65,436, 90,382, and 58; for Honorary Magistrates 9,114, 12,891, and 58·5; for Special Magistrates 58, 61 and 51·2, and for District Magistrates 1,804, 970 and 34·9.

Of the persons shown as convicted above, the numbers tried summarily were, by Bench Magistrates, 11,638; by Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates, 31,260; by Honorary Magistrates, 1,554; and by District Magistrates, 224.

Of the total number of persons convicted on regular trial 57,956 received appealable sentences and 20,657 non-appealable. Of those convicted on summary trial 10,259 were given appealable sentences and 34,417 non-appealable. Twenty-six thousand and thirteen persons were punished with rigorous imprisonment, and 740 with simple. Three thousand five hundred and seventy-five were sentenced to fine with imprisonment and 82,870 to fine without imprisonment, 1,729 received whipping as a sole and 255 as an additional punishment.

In 341 sentences of rigorous imprisonment a term of solitary confinement was included. Sixty-one youthful offenders were sentenced, in lieu of imprisonment, to detention in a Reformatory School; and 242 persons were released on probation under section 562, Criminal Procedure Code. Against persons who had previously been so released proceedings were subsequently taken in 124 instances, and 122 of them were convicted and punished. In addition to substantive punishments 2,452 persons, convicted of offences involving a breach of the peace, were required to execute bonds to keep the peace.

Of the sentences of imprisonment imposed, 5,250 were for terms not exceeding 15 days; 17,492 for terms not exceeding six months; 7,743 for periods varying between six months and two years, and 132 for over two years. Sentences of whipping were considerably fewer in number than in the preceding year. The fines imposed aggregated Rs. 7,06,085. During the year Rs. 6,33,700 were realised, and Rs. 63,197 paid as compensation to complainants out of fines realised.

Miscellaneous Proceedings under the Criminal Procedure Code.

379. In addition to criminal trials, the following were the more important classes of work dealt with by Magistrates in the mufassal during the year:—

There were 3,809 proceedings under Chapter VIII, Criminal Procedure Code, to prevent a breach of the peace, in which 15,980 persons were involved. The number of cases was almost precisely the same as in 1900 but more persons were concerned in them. Of these 7,322 were required to execute bonds to keep the peace, in addition to the persons mentioned in the preceding paragraph as having been similarly bound down on conviction. The number of persons dealt with under this chapter was largest, as usual, in Backergunge (3,844), Faridpur (2,731) and Mymensingh (856), the first named district showing a very

large increase on the figures for 1900, and the two latter considerable decreases.

In 3,428 cases 6,446 persons were called upon to show cause why they should not give security to be of good behaviour, and the orders were made absolute against 4,508 of them. Of the latter 4,209 failed to give the required security, and were imprisoned in default, 284 after reference to the Court of Session under section 123, Criminal Procedure Code, and 3,925 for terms not exceeding one year under the orders of Magistrates.

The number of cases involving questions of the possession of land decided by Magistrates during the year was 1,894, a considerably larger number than in the previous year. Proceedings for the abatement of nuisances, under Chapter X of the Criminal Procedure Code, were taken in 749 cases, of which in the cases of 380 persons a reference was made to a Jury under section 138 of the Code.

Under section 250, Criminal Procedure Code, 1,202 complainants were ordered to pay compensation to accused persons, the accusations brought by them having been found to be frivolous and vexatious. Proceedings for maintenance were taken against 836 persons, and orders were made absolute against 277.

Witnesses.

380. The number of witnesses examined in the Courts of Magistrates in the mufassal was 483,840, as compared with 487,622 in 1900. The number who attended and were discharged without examination was 175,373, or 26·6 per cent. of the whole number in attendance. In the two preceding years the percentages were 26·1 and 27·2. The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses of their attendance rose from Rs. 40,666 in 1900 to Rs. 41,051 in 1901.

Of the total number in attendance 503,917 (76·4 per cent.) were discharged on the first day; 109,560 (16·5 per cent.) on the second; 32,283 (4·8 per cent.) on the third; and 13,453 (2·3 per cent.) after the third day. The number detained for more than three days was considerably larger than in 1900, a fact which, in view of the lesser number of witnesses examined, is unsatisfactory. Of districts, the number of these detentions was largest in Tippera (1,424) and in Faridpur (1,179). In the former district it is reported that the large increase, apparent in these detentions, is nominal rather than real, returns for previous years having been incorrectly prepared.

The districts in which the largest proportions of witnesses were detained for more than three days were Pabna (6·3 per cent.), Burdwan (5·5 per cent.), Faridpur (5·1 per cent.), Tippera (4·9 per cent.), Manbhum (4·4 per cent.) and Monghyr (4·2 per cent.). Due notice has been taken by the High Court of all cases in which detentions of witnesses have not been satisfactorily explained.

COURTS OF SESSION.

Commitments, &c.

381. The number of cases committed for trial during the year was 1,852, or 74 more than in 1900; and the number of cases disposed of was 1,789, being less than the number disposed of in 1900 by 52.

Commitments increased in the 24-Parganas from 48 to 91, in Jessore from 36 to 77, in Backergunge from 76 to 102, in Khulna from 21 to 42 and in Bhagalpur from 20 to 40. In Mymensingh they fell from 185 to 129, in Saran from 97 to 70 and in Champaran from 63 to 44. The number of commitments in Mymensingh is still the largest in the Province. The Sessions Judge explains that the gradual decrease in the number of cases brought to trial is due to the fact that commitments for offences of abducting women were fewer, either owing to greater discrimination having been exercised by the Magistrates and police, or to the institution of a smaller number of groundless complaints.

Results of trials.

382. There were 4,562 persons under trial before Courts of Session during the year, and the cases of 3,610 were decided. Of these 2,283, or 63·2 per cent., were convicted and the remaining 1,327 were acquitted or discharged. The proportion of convictions is slightly larger than that of the preceding year.

Punishment.

383. The following sentences were passed by Courts of Session during the year:—Death 53, transportation for life 174, for a term of years 81, imprisonment—rigorous 1,712, simple 14, fine 103 and whipping 39.

Additional punishments were inflicted upon 91 of the persons sentenced to fine and on 30 of those sentenced to be whipped. In the case of 38, out of the 1,712 persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, that sentence included

terms of solitary confinement. Besides the above, 284 persons were sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (272 for terms between one year and three years, and 12 for terms not exceeding one year), on failure to furnish security for good behaviour; and 77 persons were required to execute bonds with sureties to keep the peace, all of them having been convicted of offences involving a breach of the peace.

Sentences of imprisonment were passed for the following terms:—Not exceeding fifteen days 13; six months 124, two years 572, seven years 1,136 and above seven years 165.

Fines to the amount of Rs. 14,279 were imposed by Courts of Session, as compared with Rs. 17,270 imposed in the preceding year and Rs. 8,537 imposed in 1899. The total realizations of the year aggregated Rs. 7,866, as compared with Rs. 6,549 in 1900, Rs. 3,112 in 1899, Rs. 1,614 in 1898 and Rs. 2,914 in 1897. The amount of fines realized and paid as compensation to complainants was Rs. 4,213 in 1901, as compared with Rs. 198 in 1900.

Jury Trials. 384. The number of persons tried by Jury during 1901 was 1,077; and of the persons so tried the Sessions Judge approved of the verdict of the Jury in respect of 966 persons and disapproved of it in respect of 111. In the case of 58 persons the Sessions Judge disagreed with the verdict so completely as to consider it necessary for the ends of justice to make a reference to the High Court, under section 307 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The results of these references are given below under the head "Superintendence, Reference and Revision."

Trials by Assessors. 385. The number of persons tried with the aid of Assessors during the year under review was 2,213, with the result that, in the case of 1,570 persons, the Sessions Judge concurred with the opinion of both the Assessors; in the case of 272 he differed from the opinion of one and, in the case of 371, he differed from the opinion of both the Assessors. The corresponding figures for 1900 were 2,164, 1,469, 282 and 413, respectively.

Duration of Cases. 386. The average duration of Sessions trials from the date of commitment to the date of decision was 53 days, as compared with 55·4 days in 1900 and 54·3 days in 1899.

The variations between the different districts range from 96 days in Chittagong, 93·3 in Faridpur, 88·4 in Jalpaiguri and 87·5 in Jessore to 27·4 days in Tippera. Special instructions were issued by the High Court in the latter portion of the year, having the object of bringing to notice instances of delay in the disposal of Sessions cases and reducing the period of detention before trial of accused persons.

Witnesses. 387. The number of witnesses in attendance before Courts of Session was 25,352. Of these 16,609 were examined and 8,743 discharged without examination. In 1900 the corresponding figures were 16,773 and 9,667, respectively.

Of the total number in attendance 10,944 (43·1 per cent.) were discharged on the first day; 6,944 (27·4 per cent.) on the second; 3,488 (13·8 per cent.) on the third, and 3,976 (15·7 per cent.) after the third day. These results are unsatisfactory, witnesses having been detained for an appreciably longer period than in 1900. Due notice has been taken of the matter by the High Court in reviewing the District Reports. The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses incurred by them in attending Sessions trials was Rs. 35,133, as compared with Rs. 33,488 in 1900.

Commitments, etc., to the High Court. 388. Including 7 cases pending at the opening of the year 38 cases came before the High Court for trial. Of these 34 were tried during the year, and 11 remained undecided at its close.

Altogether 45 persons (inclusive of a European British subject committed by the Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh) were tried, of whom 33 were convicted and 12 were acquitted. The number of witnesses examined was 311, and the average duration of cases from commitment 41·08 days.

APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

High Court. 389. At the opening of 1901 there were 65 appeals pending before the High Court from sentences or orders of Criminal Courts. During the year 953 appeals were preferred and 906 decided, leaving 112 pending at its close. The number preferred was slightly less than in the previous year.

Of the appeals against sentences preferred during the year, 872 were from Courts of Session, 58 were from Presidency Magistrates and 13 from Deputy Commissioners exercising special powers under section 34, Criminal Procedure Code. Ten appeals were preferred by the Local Government against acquittals.

Results of Appeals.

390. There were 828 appeals against sentences of Courts of Session decided during the year. The orders of the Lower Courts were upheld in 623 instances, reversed in 59 and modified in 132. Fourteen cases were remanded for further inquiry.

Fifty-six appeals from the orders of Magistrates of the Presidency town were decided during the year, the orders being affirmed in all cases. Of 14 appeals from sentences passed by Deputy Commissioners decided during the year, 12 were dismissed, and the order of the Lower Court was modified in 2.

Eight appeals by the Local Government against orders of acquittal were decided during the year. In three cases the order was upheld; in two it was reversed; and two cases were directed to be retried. In the eighth case the accused absconded before orders could be passed on the appeal. The orders upheld were acquitting persons charged with offences of rioting, accompanied with murder or culpable homicide not amounting to murder. Those reversed were orders acquitting persons charged with rape and with culpable homicide, the accused being convicted by the High Court and sentenced to seven and four years' rigorous imprisonment, respectively. The cases in which a new trial was ordered were of assault on a woman and of dishonest misappropriation of moveable property, the accused in the former one being directed to be committed for trial on a charge of rape. The case in which the accused absconded was one of murder.

The result of the appeals decided during the year, as affecting individuals, was that the appeals of 827 persons were summarily dismissed under section 421, Criminal Procedure Code, and that, in admitted appeals, sentences on 349 appellants were confirmed, on 193 reduced or altered and on 178 annulled.

APPELLATE COURTS SUBORDINATE TO THE HIGH COURT.

Sessions Courts.

391. There were 261 appeals pending before Courts of Session at the opening of the year. During the year 6,546 appeals were preferred and 6,560 disposed of, leaving pending, at the close of the year, 247. The number of appeals preferred to Sessions Judges, was larger by 178 than in the previous year.

In the appeals decided by Sessions Judges during 1901, 10,898 persons were concerned. The appeals of 2,768 of these, or 25·4 per cent., were summarily dismissed; 4,282 appellants, whose appeals were admitted, were altogether unsuccessful; 1,525 obtained a reduction or alteration of sentence; and 2,224 were acquitted.

The proportion of appellants whose appeals were wholly unsuccessful, successful in obtaining a modification of the original orders, and successful in obtaining their reversal, was 64·6, 13·9, and 20·3 per cent., respectively. Of those concerned in admitted appeals only, the same proportions were 52·6, 18·7, and 27·3. These results are slightly more favourable to appellants than those of the previous year.

Magistrates' Courts.

392. In the Courts of Magistrates, there were 199 appeals pending at the opening of the year. During the year, 5,117 appeals were instituted and 5,055 disposed of, leaving 261 pending at its close. The number preferred was larger than in 1900 by 102.

The number of persons whose appeals came before the Courts of Magistrates was 8,405. Of these, the appeals of 1,727 were summarily dismissed, and the sentences on 4,005, whose appeals were admitted, were confirmed, making a total of 5,732 wholly unsuccessful appellants, or 68·1 per cent. Of the remainder, 757 appellants, or 9 per cent., obtained a modification of the sentences passed on them, and 1,773, or 21 per cent., their total annullment. Before Magistrates, as before Courts of Session, appellants were more successful than in 1900.

SUPERINTENDENCE, REFERENCE AND REVISION, HIGH COURT.

References under Section 307, Criminal Procedure Code.

393. There were 36 references under section 307, Criminal Procedure Code, from verdicts of juries made to the High Court during the year and two were left

pending from the previous year. Twenty-six of such references were decided during the year, 12 remaining undecided at the close of it. The result of the 26 cases disposed of was that the verdict of the jury was accepted in nine cases, and set aside in 17.

References under Section 374, Criminal Procedure Code.

394. Under section 374, Criminal Procedure Code, 45 references for confirmation of death sentences were made to the High Court and decided during the year. Two such references remained undecided both at the beginning of the year and at the close of it. In the references decided 53 persons were concerned. Of these the death sentence on 23 was confirmed, and in the cases of 14 their sentence was commuted to transportation for life. In the case of one person sentence of transportation for seven years, and in the case of two persons sentences of rigorous imprisonment for ten years and three years, respectively, were substituted, the accused in these three instances having been convicted by the High Court of minor offences. In the case of one person retrial was ordered, and 12 persons were acquitted.

Eight cases of persons who, though not insane, could not be made to understand the proceedings of the Court, were referred to the High Court under section 341, Criminal Procedure Code. In two of these cases the convictions were approved and sentence passed by the High Court; in one the accused was acquitted and in the fourth the accused was convicted, but directed to be discharged from custody, having already received sufficient punishment of detention in jail during trial. In two cases the trial of the accused committed to Court of Session under sections 436 and $\frac{379}{75}$ respectively, of the Indian Penal Code, was allowed to proceed, and two remained undisposed of at the end of the year.

Revision.

395. During the year 326 cases were reported for the orders of the High Court by Sessions Judges and District Magistrates under section 438, Criminal Procedure Code, and 321 cases were decided. The number so reported was larger by 45 than in 1900. In 198 cases the orders sent up for revision were set aside or the proceedings quashed, and in 52 a new trial was ordered. Sentences were reduced or altered in 17 cases, enhanced in 8, and in one an order of transfer was made: in the remaining 45 the High Court declined to interfere.

Under section 435, Criminal Procedure Code, orders were passed in 1,123 cases, an increase of 92 on the figures of the previous year. Of these 1,108 came before the High Court on application made to it, and 15 were taken up on review of the periodical Sessions statements submitted by Sessions Judges.

Of the applications for the issue of rules, 605 were rejected. Of 503 rules issued, 124 were finally discharged; 226 were made absolute in their entirety; the orders complained of were modified in 66 cases; in 76 cases a new trial was ordered; and 11 cases were transferred to other Courts for trial.

Of the 15 cases taken up by the High Court on review of Sessions statement, in 11 the orders passed in the Lower Court were not disturbed, in two sentences were reduced and in two they were enhanced.

Applications for Transfer.

396. One hundred and five applications under section 526, Criminal Procedure Code, for the transfer of cases from one Court or District to another were made during the year, and 100 were disposed of. Of these 32 were summarily rejected, and in 17 cases transfers were granted without issue of a rule. In 51 cases rules were issued, with the result that transfers were granted in 34 and refused in 17 cases.

COURTS SUBORDINATE TO THE HIGH COURT.

Sessions Courts.

397. Including accused persons who themselves applied for revision of the orders passed on them in the Courts of Magistrates, and accused persons against whom such applications were made by complainants, the cases of 6,331 persons were decided on revision by Courts of Session during the year. The number was larger than in 1900 by 545. The applications of 2,533 persons were rejected, and as regards 1,472 the orders of the Lower Court were confirmed. Orders passed in the cases of 46 persons were reversed; in 54 instances proceedings were quashed; and the order of the Lower Court was modified in one case. In the cases of 1,659 persons new trials were directed, and 566 were referred to the High Court.

Magistrates' Courts.

398. The cases of 4,051 accused persons came before District Magistrates for revision, of whom 1,737 were themselves in the first instance accused. The totalnumber was larger by 559 than in 1900. Of the total, applications were rejected in the cases of 1,755 persons, and in those of 878 the original sentence or order was upheld. Sentences or orders affecting 30 persons were modified and those affecting 323 were reversed. In the cases of 40 persons proceedings were quashed, and in those of 934 new trials were directed. The cases of ninety-one persons were referred to the High Court.

GENERAL.

Trials of European British Subjects.

399. Fifty-seven cases in all Courts were brought against European British subjects during the year. The number is less than that of 1900 by 30, and, with the exception of the year 1899, is the smallest on record.

Seven cases were pending at the opening of the year and at its close eight, 56 having been disposed of during the year. Of those pending two were cases in which the accused have, for long, been insane and incapable of making a defence. Of the cases disposed of 50 were tried by European Magistrates, five by Native Magistrates and one by the High Court.

The number of persons concerned in these cases was 66. Of these two claimed a mixed jury. The person committed to the High Court was acquitted of a charge of an offence affecting life.

The cases of 65 persons were finally disposed of by Magistrates, and of these 40 were convicted and 25 acquitted. The majority of these were concerned in offences under special and local Laws, and in cases of hurt and assault. Of districts, the largest number of Europeans were tried in Darjeeling and Howrah (11 in each), and in Chittagong and Hooghly (9 in each).

Receipts and Charges.

400. Debiting, as usual, to the administration of Criminal Justice a proportion of the salaries of Judicial Officers fixed by the time which their returns show them to have devoted to it, the total charges for the year amounted to Rs. 30,90,073. Of this amount Rs. 19,92,912 were for the salaries of Judicial Officers; Rs. 1,38,848 for fixed and temporary copying establishments; Rs. 97,381 for process-servers; Rs. 4,66,325 for other establishments, and Rs. 3,94,600 for contingencies and refunds.

The receipts amounted to Rs. 15,91,411. Of this amount Rs. 6,79,026 were under fines; Rs. 2,24,551 under process-fees; Rs. 1,74,623 under copying and comparing fees; Rs. 3,91,754 under court-fee stamp receipts other than the above; and Rs. 1,21,457 were miscellaneous receipts. The charges exceed those of 1900 by over Rs. 5,000, while the receipts fell by about Rs. 35,000.

As already observed, there was a very large decrease, as compared with the previous year, in the number of criminal cases coming before Courts of first instance. The greater portion of this decrease is accounted for by the Calcutta figures. In mufassal Courts, also, the number of cases coming before the Courts appreciably diminished though, as the figures relating to witnesses show, the decrease in the amount of work done by the Courts was trifling.

In the figures relating to Courts of Sessions the notable feature is a decided increase in the number of appeals, owing to which the time spent by District and Sessions Judges on criminal work shows a further increase on the exceptionally high figure noticed in the report for 1900. Since the close of the year it has been decided that a certain number of Subordinate Judges shall be regularly vested with the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. This will afford to District and Sessions Judges some measure of relief from criminal work, and should enable them to devote more time to civil work than at present.

In the High Court the number of Revision cases shows a marked increase during the year. In other respects the year was a normal one.

Criminal Justice in the Sonthal Parganas.

401. There were 8,163 persons under trial during the year as against 6136 in the preceding year. Of these 4,938 were convicted. There were 1,686 cases reported under "Theft," 1,818 under "Criminal Force and Assault," 1,743 under "Criminal Trespass," and 2,284 under "Offences under special and local Laws." Of the cases under "Criminal Force and Assault" and "Criminal Trespass" only 636 and 775, respectively, were returned as true. One hundred

and sixty-nine whippings were inflicted: 428 persons appealed to the Deputy Commissioner; in the case of 73 the original sentence passed was reduced, and in the case of 105 it was reversed. Fifteen persons appealed to the Commissioner, and seven succeeded in getting the sentences passed on them reduced or reversed; 146 persons applied to the Deputy Commissioner for revision, of whom 7 obtained a reduction or reversal of the sentence passed upon them, and 21 an order for a new trial or further inquiry. There were 68 applicants for revision before the Commissioner. In the case of 16 the sentence passed was reduced or reversed, and in the case of 5 a new trial or further enquiry was ordered.

Jails.

[Administration Report on the Jails of Bengal for 1901; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section V.]

Jail population.

402. The total number of prisoners who passed through the jails, and the daily average population, were higher than in any previous year. The number of convicts at the beginning of the year was 18,914, and 40,070 were imprisoned during the year, against 39,324 in 1900; 30,325 were released on expiry of sentence; 6,845 under the remission rules, and 1,343 on appeal; 15 were released by order of Government on account of sickness, and 5 on other grounds; 945 were transported, 7 transferred to lunatic asylums, and 14 escaped and were not recaptured at the end of the year; 23 were executed, against 49 in 1900, and there were 533 deaths as compared with 731 in the previous year. The daily average number of convicts was 19,180·52, the highest recorded. Of the average convict population, 53·18 per cent. were confined in central jails, 44·74 in district jails, and 2·08 in subsidiary jails; 247 male and female convicts from Bengal were deported to the Andamans. There were 238 Burman convicts under confinement in the jails at the end of the year.

403. Of the convicts received during the year, 58·22 per cent. were Hindus, 36·91 per cent. Muhammadans, 0·87 per cent. Christians, 0·49 per cent. Jains or Buddhists, and 3·51 per cent. belonged to other classes. Of those imprisoned during the year 385 were under 16 years of age, 29,765 between 16 and 40, 8,779 between 40 and 60, and 1,141 above 60. The proportion of juveniles (*i.e.*, prisoners under 16 years of age) to total admissions was 0·96 against 1·19 in the previous year. 89·06 per cent. of the admissions were illiterate, 8·40 per cent. were able to read and write, and 2·54 per cent. were able only to read. 1·72 per cent. of the male convicts admitted were persons employed under Government, Municipal or other local authorities, 3·48 per cent. were professional persons, 9·56 per cent. persons in service or performing personal offices, 59·80 per cent. persons engaged in agriculture or with animals, 3·30 per cent. persons engaged in commerce and trade, 1·68 per cent. persons employed in mechanical arts, manufactures and engineering operations, and 20·46 per cent. were miscellaneous persons not classed otherwise. The number of females imprisoned during the year was 1,455, of whom 558 were married, 27 unmarried, 651 widows, and 219 prostitutes. In the depôt for juvenile female convicts in the Bhagalpur Central Jail there were 7 girls under detention at the end of the year.

Of those imprisoned during the year 31·27 per cent. had sentences not exceeding one month, 22·83 per cent. over one month and not exceeding three months, 15·51 per cent. over three months and not exceeding six months, 18·02 per cent. over six months and not exceeding one year, 6·79 per cent. over 1 but not exceeding 2 years; 3·53 per cent. over 2 but not exceeding 5 years; 1·24 per cent. above 5 years but not exceeding 10 years; 0·01 per cent. over 10 years; 0·18 per cent. were sentenced to transportation for a term, and 0·49 per cent. for life, and 0·13 per cent. were sentenced to death. Two thousand five hundred and sixty-five prisoners were sentenced to simple imprisonment, 37,024 to rigorous imprisonment, 254 to rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement, and 227 to rigorous imprisonment with whipping. The number of reconvicted prisoners was 5,439 against 5,324 in 1900, and the ratio per cent. to the total number of convicts admitted was 13·57, against 13·53 in the previous year.

The number sentenced to imprisonment for bad livelihood, was 3,844 against 2,908 in 1900.

404. There were 2,005 under-trial prisoners under detention on the 1st January 1901, and there were 39,704 direct admissions. The daily average number under confinement was 2,063·40 males and 86·64 females. Eighteen thousand two hundred and ninety-three were acquitted, 20,763 were sentenced, and 9 escaped and were not re-captured. There were 55 deaths among prisoners of this class, against 105 in 1900. **Under-trial prisoner.**

405. The number of civil prisoners admitted during the year was 798, against 928 in 1900. The daily average number under detention was 53·34, against 62·23 in 1900. The number remaining at the end of the year was 47, against 63 in 1900. There were 10 State prisoners under confinement during the year. **Civil prisoners.**

406. There has been a small decrease in the number of prison offences, and consequently in the percentage of punishments to the average number of convicts. The proportion of the different classes of offences is much the same as in previous years. The Jail Superintendents, with few exceptions, consider the mark system a very valuable aid to discipline; but the jail statistics in regard to it do not show that it has had any appreciable effect on the behaviour of the convicts generally, and its value is still under investigation. **Prison discipline.**

407. The jail death-rate fell from 40·3 to 27·5, which is considerably below the decennial average of 32·7. The Central Jails were, as usual healthy, and in only two of them—Midnapore and Bhagalpur—does the death-rate call for any remark. The former has for many years had the reputation of being the most unhealthy Central Jail in Bengal, and this year, though its figures are much lower than in the preceding year, it returns a death-rate of 36·8 out of 42 deaths, as many as 25 being due to dysentery and diarrhœa. The prevalence of these diseases is traced indirectly to the deficiency in the jail water-supply, and it is hoped that the construction of the new water-works for the jail will materially reduce its character for unhealthiness. In the Bhagalpur Jail the death-rate of 35·1 is in a great measure the result of the large number of deaths (23 out of a total of 63) from cerebro-spinal fever, which has practically been epidemic in the jail since 1897. At present very little appears to be known of this disease, its causes and the means of prevention; but every measure suggested by medical authorities for stamping it out has been adopted. **Health of the inmates.**

Of the district jails, Hooghly, Barisal, Bankipore, Puri and Monghyr return death-rates of over 50 per mille. In the Bankipore and Monghyr Jails a large proportion of the deaths was due to plague and cholera, and but for these causes the death-rate would have been as usual low. Puri is also a healthy jail, and four of the five deaths which go to give it a high death-rate occurred within a very short time after the admission of the patients. Hooghly is always an unhealthy jail, and this year heads the list with a death-rate of 81·4. Two-thirds of the deaths were due to dysentery,—a disease which is very common throughout the district. There is unfortunately but little probability of this jail ever showing satisfactory results in this respect, for the town in which it is situate is notoriously unhealthy, as are also the two districts from which it draws its prisoners. The only practicable remedy would seem to be to provide accommodation elsewhere, and keep by transfer the numbers in this jail as low as possible. With a death-rate of 78·9 Barisal is almost equally unsatisfactory. Of its 40 deaths, 16 were due to dysentery, which is always the chief cause of the high mortality in this jail. The Superintendent reports that nearly all the fatal cases occurred amongst those prisoners who were suffering from the disease on admission, or came into the jail with its results in their system. Inasmuch, however, as the district death-rate is no higher than 36·46, it is probable that unfavourable conditions within the jail itself, such as defective vegetable supply, are at least partly responsible for the bad results. The jail at Daltonganj, which, since it was opened in 1897, has almost annually returned a high death-rate, shows for the year under review a mortality of only 13·4.

408. Closely connected with the health of the jail inmates is another matter which received special attention last year—the increase in jail accommodation. A special grant of Rs. 1,50,000 in all has been made for this purpose; and new buildings providing for 728 persons in all are in course of construction at Mymensingh, Dacca, Rampur Boalia, Barisal, Faridpur, **Jail accommodation.**

Bankipur, Cuttack, and Chaibassa. Meanwhile the temporary accommodation has been increased and improved, and there are this year no complaints of general overcrowding such as were made last year. There is and must be an occasional excess of number in particular jails, but this is relieved by transfers. When transfer is not possible, as in the case of under-trial prisoners, the latter are accommodated in a portion of the buildings usually reserved for convicts. But whatever may be done in the way of additional accommodation, the increase in the number of prisoners bids fair to keep pace with it; and, as the Inspector-General remarks, the margin between average population and available accommodation has become exceedingly narrow. The rise in the average daily population noticed last year was ascribed to the increase in the number of long sentences, or in other words to the increase in the number of those convicted for serious crimes. In the year under review not only is the daily average population higher than in any previous year, but the number of admissions is greater than that for 1900 by over 2,000, and it is clear that if there is any further addition to the yearly number of prisoners passing through the jails, the extensions in jail buildings lately sanctioned will have to be supplemented.

Employment of prisoners and financial results.

409. The manufactures on which the convicts have been employed during the year show very satisfactory results, and the profit per head, after taking into consideration stock and liabilities at the beginning and close of the year, comes to Rs. 31-3 as compared with Rs. 26-14 in 1900. Against this the total cost of the jails, excluding public works charges, has increased from Rs. 15,75,727 to Rs. 17,10,492, and the cost per prisoner from Rs. 75-14-5 to Rs. 79-15-3. The increase occurs chiefly in Establishment and Dietary Charges. The increase under the latter head is due to the comparative dearness of food-grains at the storing season, and that under the former to the extra cost involved by giving effect to the proposals for the improvement of the warder service which were sanctioned with effect from the 1st November 1900. In this connection it appears that with the amelioration of the prospects of the warders there has been a decrease in the number of punishments inflicted upon them, and in particular a marked diminution in the number of dismissals. The total number of punishments awarded, however, is still higher than it was in 1898 or 1899, and it is hoped that next year's figures will show that the warder service appreciates the concessions lately obtained for them.

Subsidiary Jails.

410. A new subsidiary jail was opened at Pakaur, in the district of the Sonthal Parganas, at the beginning of the year, and there are now 88 of these jails in the Province. The number of direct admissions of convicts was 18,539, and the average number under detention 398·90 against 384·10 in 1900. The average period of detention of convicts was 7·31 days, against 7·74 days in 1900. There were 15 deaths of convicts against 36 in the previous year. The number of direct admissions of under-trial prisoners was 19,199 and the average number under confinement 843·38 against 17,654 and 780·23, respectively, in 1900. The average period of detention of under-trial prisoners was 9·33 days. Seventeen civil prisoners were admitted into subsidiary jails during the year against 82 in 1900. The total amount spent on buildings was Rs. 7,754 : schemes for the enlargement of the Pirojpur, Sirajganj, and Bagirhat subsidiary jails were sanctioned and are now being carried out. The total expenditure on subsidiary jails was Rs. 1,30,008 as compared with Rs. 1,25,530 in 1900.

Civil Justice.

[Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Lower Provinces of Bengal for 1901 ; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section III.]

Judicial Staff.

411. The only variation from previous years in the strength of the permanent staff was the addition of a Munsif, sanctioned for employment as Registrar of the Small Cause Court at Munshiganj in Dacca. In addition to the permanent staff, several temporary officers were employed during the year.

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

I.—High Court.

Original Suits.

412. The number of civil suits pending on the Original Side of the High Court at the end of 1900 was 1,627, including 75 pending suits received by transfer from other Courts, and the number instituted or received on remand under section 562, Code of Civil Procedure, during 1901, was 879. There was thus a total of 2,431 cases for disposal in 1901. Of the suits instituted during 1901, 493 were for money or moveable property, 138 were mortgage suits and 101 were for immoveable property. The value of suits for specific money claims was Rs. 56,56,394-13-6, as compared with Rs. 47,81,963-10-6 in the previous year. The number of suits decided in 1901 was 964, and the number left undisposed of at the end of the year was 1,467. The number of suits under trial was, consequently, less by 160 than at the commencement of the year, but 954 had been pending for more than one year. The number of suits disposed of exceeds that of 1900 by 133.

Of the suits decided 186 were dismissed for default or want of prosecution, 67 were withdrawn with leave, 39 were determined by compromise, 97 were decreed on confession, 216 were decreed *ex-parte*, 10 were dismissed *ex-parte*, 27 were disposed of by reference to arbitration, 290 were decreed after contest and 32 were dismissed after contest.

Cases under the Extraordinary Jurisdiction.

413. At the commencement of the year eight suits were pending in the High Court in its Extraordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction, and one suit was transferred to it during the year. Five cases were disposed of during the year and four remained pending at its close.

Probates and Letters of Administration etc.

414. There were also disposed of during the year 448 petitions for Probate and Letters of Administration, 2,800 interlocutory applications (including applications for the appointment of guardians under the Guardians and Wards' Act, for the appointment of guardians *ad litem*, for the appointment of receivers, for injunction for the recovery of documents, for execution, etc.),and 470 applications for summons to witnessess. Of the interlocutory applications those for the appointment of guardians *ad litem*, for the recovery of documents, for special leave to file written statements after time and for summons to witnesses were disposed of by the Registrar.

Appeals from the Original Jurisdiction.

415. The number of appeals from the Original to the Appellate Side of the Court pending at the commencement of 1901 was 31, and 47 new appeals were preferred during the year. Of these 78 appeals 10 were dismissed for default and 19 were decided, the decrees of the Court of First Instance being affirmed in nine, reversed in eight, modified in one and remanded in one case. Forty-nine such appeals remained undecided at the close of the year.

References from the Calcutta Court of Small Causes.

416. At the commencement of the year four references were pending, and one was made during the year. Of these four were disposed of, the judgment of the Court below being affirmed in two cases and two being struck off.

Applications for the transfer of cases from the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

417. Sixty-seven cases transferred from the Calcutta Court of Small Causes, under sections 38 and 39 of the Presidency Small Cause Court Act, were pending at the commencement of the year, and during the year 21 applications were made to the High Court under those sections for transfer to the High Court. All the applications were granted. Of the 88 cases for disposal 12 were decreed after trial and 2 on confession. The remaining 74 cases were pending at the close of the year.

One application made to the High Court under section 622 of the Code of Civil Procedure, to call for records from the Calcutta Court of Small Causes, was pending at the commencement of the year, and during the year four such applications were made to the High Court. Of these five applications, in two cases the rule was discharged and in three the records were called for, and the High Court directed a re-hearing by the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

Insolvency Cases.

418. The number of cases pending in the Insolvency Court at the commencement of the year was 160, and the number instituted during the year was 158. Of the 318 cases for disposal 139 were disposed of, in 40 cases the adjudication being set aside or superseded, two cases being struck off and the insolvents obtaining relief in 97 cases. Of the persons who sought relief in the cases disposed of 69 were traders within the meaning of the Insolvency Act, 49 were private persons and were persons employed in public and other offices.

Miscellaneous Applications.

419. There were also disposed of during the year 35 applications for *ad interim* protection, and 913 applications of a miscellaneous character.

Duration of Sittings.

420. For the hearing of original suits and applications one Judge sat alone for 69 days, two Judges sat separately and simultaneously for 97 days and three Judges sat separately and simultaneously for 71 days. The Insolvent Court engaged the time of one Judge for 18 days. Appeals from the Original Side occupied a Bench of three Judges for 34 days.

Appeals to the Privy Council.

421. There were two appeals pending at the commencement of the year, the transcript records in both of which were transmitted to the Privy Council during the year. No fresh appeal was admitted during the year under review.

Receipts and Expenditure.

422. The total receipts of the High Court on the Original Side during 1901 were Rs. 5,78,381, chiefly made up of "Fees realised by Stamps" (Rs. 2,13,545) and "Probate and Administration Duty" (Rs. 3,04,502). The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,34,127.

Taxing Office.

423. The number of bills taxed during the year was 772. The Court-fees for taxation during the year amounted to Rs. 14,559. This sum is also includedin the item " Other Fees realised by means of Stamps."

II.—Civil Courts in the Mufassal subordinate to the High Court.

Reconstitution of Courts.

424. During the year under review a Registrar of the Court of Small Causes of Munshiganj, in the district of Dacca, was appointed for the trial of suits of values not exceeding Rs. 20, with effect from the 19th March 1901. The thanas of Jharia, Nirsha, Gobindpur, Topchanchi and Tundi, which were within the concurrent jurisdiction of the Munsifs of Raghunathpur and Gobindpur, in the Chota Nagpur Division, were excluded from the jurisdiction of the Munsif of Raghunathpur and placed under the sole jurisdiction of the Munsif of Gobindpur, with effect from the 4th May 1901. A Subordinate Judge was posted at Motihari, as a tentative measure, to try suits and hear appeals arising within the district of Champaran, with effect from the 15th June 1901. The post of the Registrar of the Sealdah Small Cause Court was abolished, with effect from the 13th December 1901.

Original Suits Instituted.

425. The number of suits instituted in 1901 was 606,292. This figure, though in excess of those of any of the years previous to 1899 and 1900, is less than that of the latter year by 42,233. From 1890 to 1900 the figures of institutions show a regular and continuous increase, and the explanation of this apparent check in the progress of litigation seems to be that the year 1897 was an exceptionally unfavourable one; that many debts then incurred were left to be realised, under the period of limitation, till 1900; and that the creditors who resorted to the Courts in that year took advantage of the fact that it was a prosperous one to realise debts which might otherwise have been left over to 1901. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that the decrease is entirely accounted for by uncontested litigation, which may be said to represent the extent to which the Courts are used as a debt-collecting agency. Contested litigation, as appears below, was slightly larger in 1901 than in 1900, the number of suits disposed of on contest being the highest on record under the present classification. The decrease, moreover, in title-suits, the most important class of litigation, is inappreciable. It may, therefore, be said that litigation proper, in spite of the numerical decrease in institutions, continued to increase during the year.

The decrease occurred in each class of suits, those for money and moveables, rent-suits and title-suits showing decreases of 8·2, 6·1 and 1·4 per cent., respectively. The " suits for money and moveables " instituted were 263,670 as against 287,261 in 1900. The value of suits instituted in 1901 amounted to Rs. 11,13,03,267. This exceptionally large total is due to the institution of a title-suit valued at three crores of rupees in the Sub-Judge's Court at Patna. In all the districts, with the exception of Birbhum, Cuttack, Midnapore, Murshidabad, Saran, Shahabad and Tirhut, there was a decrease in the number of suits instituted in 1901. In Cuttack there was a small increase, ascribed to the development of business consequent on the opening of the Railway. A large increase in Tirhut and a small one in Saran are ascribed to the recent survey and settlement operations. In the remaining districts the increase

appears to have been casual. There is no great variation from the figures of previous years as regards the comparative number of institutions in the various districts. Mymensingh, however, with 40,323, now takes the first place, which is usually occupied by Jessore. Jessore, owing to a decrease of 4,926, now stands second with 40,135 suits. In the latter district the number of rent-suits (23,263) is, as usual, very much the largest in the Province. In no other district did the suits instituted during the year reach 40,000. In Tippera, the 24-Parganas, Midnapore and Dacca, institutions were between 30,000 and 40,000. The decrease in Tippera (5,642) during the year was the largest in the Province. Institutions were between 20,000 and 30,000 in eight districts, Backergunge and Noakhali having fallen into and out of this group, respectively, owing to decreases since the previous year. In ten districts between 10,000 and 20,000 suits were instituted. In Purnea, Shahabad and Chota Nagpur, institutions were between 5,000 to 10,000. Patna and Gaya with 4,807 and 2,577 institutions, respectively, stand, as usual, at the bottom of the list.

Nature of Suits Instituted.

426. The majority of suits instituted were, as usual, for trifling sums. Of the 263,670 suits for money and moveables, only 3,769 involved amounts of over Rs. 500. The total number of suits under the Rent Law was 266,736, and of "Title and other Suits" 75,886. In only 2,581 and 7,942 cases, respectively, were the amounts sued for above Rs. 500.

In suits for money or moveables, 61·2 per cent., and in rent-suits, 75·6 per cent., were for sums less than Rs. 50, their proportion to the number of suits instituted in each class showing in the former case a further increase to a very slight extent, and in the latter being nearly two per cent. less than in the previous year.

In suits under the Rent Law, 97·5 per cent. were for realisation of arrears of rent. Of the suits classified as title suits, 43·6 per cent. were mortgage-suits, 38·1 for immoveable property and 11·3 for specific relief. The suits which come under this head represent in value, as in former years, more than half the total litigation of the Province. Of the 37 suits instituted during the year, which were valued at over a lakh, 35 were title suits.

Number of Suits Disposed of.

427. In addition to the 606,292 suits instituted during the year and the 110,887 pending trial from the previous year, there were 19,315 suits revived, or received on remand or review during the year, making a total for disposal of 736,494. The number of suits disposed of was 628,662. This number falls short of that for 1900 by 30,390, but is, however, much in excess of that for any other year. Of the total disposed of, 598,255 were disposed of by Munsifs, 14,597 by Subordinate Judges, 15,278 by Small Cause Court Judges, and 532 by District and Additional Judges.

In the suits disposed of during the year, plaintiffs were unsuccessful in 136,100 cases, or 21·7 per cent., of which 95,326 were dismissed for default; in 94,293 cases, or 14·9 per cent., a compromise was effected; and plaintiffs were successful in 398,269 cases, or 63·4 per cent. Plaintiffs were less successful, though to a slight degree only, than in the three preceding years. Of the 116,928 suits decided on contest, 94,900, or 81·2 per cent., resulted in favour of plaintiffs, and 22,028, or 18·8 per cent., in favour of defendants.

Applications for Re-trial.

428. The proportion of applications for re-trial to the number of cases which were dismissed for default or in which decrees were made *ex-parte* was perceptibly less than in the previous year, the numbers being 29,658 and 382,739, respectively. The applications were successful in 18,253 cases, or 61·5 per cent.

Suits decided by Munsifs.

429. The suits disposed of by Munsifs were 31,328 less than those of the previous year. The average number of suits disposed of by each Munsif employed throughout the year was 1,994, as against 2,141 in 1900. Nearly one-third of the total number disposed of by Munsifs were, as usual, under the Small Cause Court procedure. The decrease is under uncontested suits, and is accounted for by the great falling off in the number instituted during the year.

The number of contested suits disposed of by Munsifs in 1901 was 109,802, or 18·3 per cent. of the total. In the three previous years the proportion was 17·3 per cent., 17·7 per cent. and 18·1 per cent., respectively. Although the total number of contested suits determined is larger than in 1900, the average number of contested suits decided by each Munsif fell from 370 in 1900 to 366 in 1901,

a slightly larger staff having been employed during the latter year. In suits under the ordinary procedure disposed of by Munsifs, the percentage of those contested was 20·4 per cent., and in suits under Small Cause Court procedure 13·8.

Suits disposed of by Subordinate Judges.

430. The number of original suits disposed of by Subordinate Judges in 1901 was 14,597, a decrease of 153 on the figures of the previous year. The decrease, however, has occurred entirely in cases decided in the exercise of Small Cause Court powers, which fell from 10,134 to 9,359, those decided under the ordinary procedure having increased from 4,616 to 5,238. The latter number is considerably the highest on record. The number of contested suits decided under ordinary procedure was 2,181, and that under powers of a Small Cause Court 1,915, the percentages to the totals decided being 41·6 and 20·4, respectively. The proportion of suits decided on contest is practically stationary.

Suits disposed of by Small Cause Courts.

431. The Provincial Small Cause Courts disposed of 15,278 original suits, of which 2,806 were contested. Owing to the appointment of a Registrar with judicial powers in the Court at Munshiganj, there was a large increase of work in that Court during the year under report.

Average duration of Cases.

432. The average duration of suits (contested and uncontested) decided during the past year by the several grades of Courts was much the same as in the previous year, except in respect of contested and uncontested suits tried under ordinary procedure by Subordinate Judges. In both of these the average duration shows a marked increase. In the latter, however, it is more apparent than real, being accounted for by the fact that a number of cases of long standing in Chota Nagpur were disposed of during the year by compromise. Apart from this, the variation is trifling.

Pending Suits.

433. The number of suits pending at the close of the year was reduced from 110,887 to 107,837. It is satisfactory to observe that the Courts have, for the first time since 1895, been able to do more than keep pace with the work coming before them. The outstanding arrears, however, owing to the constant and rapid increase in litigation from 1895 to 1900, are still very heavy, and it will be necessary, even should litigation remain stationary, that additional officers should be employed for some time longer in sufficient numbers to enable them to reduce the arrears to more reasonable dimensions. Of the pending cases 2,513 had been pending for more than a year, 7,304 for more than six months and 37,877 for more than three months. There is an increase in the number of suits pending for more than a year which, however, is apparent only, 370 of the cases pending in the Patna district being analogous suits to be disposed of in two judgments. Apart from this, the figures were practically stationary. Of the suits pending over one year 1,702 were in the Courts of Munsifs, and 811 in the Courts of District and Subordinate Judges. The number of suits pending over a year was largest in Patna (536), Saran (234), Cuttack (213), Mymensingh (183), Bhagalpur (135), Nadia (134), Tirhut (131), Burdwan and Jessore (110 each) and Murshidabad (101). In Patna 370 of the long pending cases were, as noted above, in two batches of analogous suits. In Cuttack and Jessore, the number of such cases was smaller than at the close of 1900. In Mymensingh and Nadia a reduction has been effected since the close of the year. Temporary assistance has been allowed to the districts of Burdwan and Murshidabad since the close of the year, and will, it is hoped, enable a reduction to be made in the number of long pending suits. In Saran and Tirhut the increase in arrears is accounted for by the increase in the number of cases instituted. Temporary additions have been made to the staffs of these districts also since the close of the year.

Execution Proceedings.

434 There were 99,441 applications for execution of decrees pending from the previous year, and 434,302 such applications were made during the year. Realisation was complete in 135,289 cases and partial in 105,258. In 192,632 cases proceedings were returned as infructuous, realisation having, in the great majority of cases, doubtless been made out of Court; and 93,309 remained pending at the close of the year. The total amount realised in Courts other than Small Cause Courts was Rs. 2,01,30,333. Debtors were imprisoned in 374 cases, moveable property was sold in 13,649, and immoveable in 64,551.

Miscellaneous Cases.

435. The number of miscellaneous cases of a judicial nature instituted fell from 73,480 to 72,608. The number of such cases disposed of rose from 72,680

to 73,077, and the number pending from 14,684 to 15,037. Of the cases disposed of 27,369 were withdrawn, compromised or confessed; 22,611 were decided *exparte*, and 23,097 were contested. Of the total number of applications disposed of after contest 56·3 per cent. were granted. Of the pending cases 207 had been pending for more than a year.

The miscellaneous cases of a non-judicial nature instituted during the year were 26,739 in number. Of these, as usual, two-thirds were applications for the deposit of rent. Disposals numbered 26,832 and the pending file was reduced to 3,132. The number of applications for the deposit of rent was highest in Tirhut (4,504), Saran (1,528) and Hooghly (1,428).

III.—Calcutta Small Cause Court.

Calcutta Small Cause Court.

436. The number of suits instituted and decided in the Presidency Court of Small Causes during 1901, and the number pending at its close, was 19,854, 20,257 and 2,141, respectively. There was a further decrease in both institutions and cases disposed of, the number of pending cases having risen. The decrease in institutions in 1901 was general in suits both of large and small value. It occurred, however, chiefly in suits of value under Rs. 100, which formed about three-fourths of the total. The number of suits above Rs. 1,000 was 367, or 38 less than in the previous year. The total value of the litigation in the Presidency Small Cause Court was Rs. 25,09,909 in the year under review, as compared with Rs. 26,46,205 in the preceding year.

The average duration of contested and uncontested cases during 1900 was 42·5 and 33·6 days, respectively, the former being 16 days and the latter 9 days longer than in 1900. It has been explained that the increase is nominal only, being due to the introduction of the new rules of practice under which the fixed period between the date of institution and the last day for entering appearance is about twice as long as the period between the institution and the returnable date of the summons given under the former practice. The practical result of the new rules is stated to have been a more regular and expeditious disposal of business and a decrease in adjournment.

Mode of Disposal.

437. Of the 20,257 suits disposed of during 1901, 1,461 were dismissed for default or want of prosecution, or were withdrawn with leave; 15,865 were decided without contest; 2,930 were decided after contest or upon reference to arbitration, and in one the plaint was either rejected or returned. Of the 2,141 suits remaining under trial at the close of 1901, only 39 had been pending for more than three months. The number so pending at the end of the previous year was 68.

Execution of Decrees.

438. Out of 29,080 applications for the execution of decrees dealt with in the Presidency Small Cause Court, of which 928 were pending from the previous year, 28,342 were determined and 738 remained pending at the close the year. Of the latter, 310 were more than three months old. Of the applications disposed of, 23,341 resulted in whole or partial satisfaction of the decrees granted, 4,073 were returned as wholly infructuous, and 928 were transferred to other Courts. The total amount realised was Rs. 7,21,023, as compared with Rs. 7,09,220 in the previous year. In order to enforce the execution of decrees imprisonment was resorted to in 125 cases, and sale of moveables in 604. The number is greater in the former case and less in the latter than in 1900.

APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

I.—High Court.

Appeals under the Letters Patent.

439. Under section 15 of the Letters Patent there were 47 First Appeals filed during the year, and 31 were pending at its commencement. Of the total, 29 were decided and 49 remained pending at the close of the year. Of the number undecided, nine had been pending for more than a year. No Second Appeals came before the Court. No Third Appeals were filed during the year; but there were two pending from the previous year, and they were decided.

II.—Appeals from the Subordinate Civil Courts.

Appeals to the High Court from Subordinate Courts.

440. The number of First Appeals preferred during the year was 361 from decrees and 360 from orders. Of the former class there were 996 appeals pending at the beginning of the year, and of the latter 301. Three hundred and fifty-two First Appeals from decrees were decided during the year, and 226 First Appeals from orders. Under Second Appeals, 5,108 appeals from decrees were pending at the beginning of the year, 2,699 preferred and 2,412 decided. Corresponding figures for appeals from orders were 158, 159 and 174. The figures include appeals from the Courts of Assam and the Chief Court of Burma. The institutions of First Appeals from decrees were 115 less, and of Second Appeals from decrees 195 more than in 1900. First Appeals from orders were 103 more, and Second Appeals from orders 99 less numerous than in 1900.

The number of appeals decided has increased, as compared with the results of 1900, by 47 First Appeals from decrees, 219 Second Appeals from decrees, and 62 appeals from orders. At the close of the year there were pending 1,440 First Appeals, of which 1,005 were from decrees and 435 from orders, and 5,538 Second Appeals, of which 5,395 were from decrees. The total exceeds that of the number pending at the close of 1900 by 415. The number decided, though considerably in excess of the figures of the previous year, was not equal to the number preferred, and the number of appeals before the High Court has, consequently, increased to the extent indicated above.

Civil Work of the High Court.

441. In addition to the appeals referred to above the following civil business came before the High Court in its Appellate jurisdiction during the year:—"Appeals under the Letters Patent" (47), References (3), Motions (2,224), Rules granted (386) and Divorce cases (3).

Value of Appeals.

442. Of the appeals brought before the Court during the year from the original and appellate decrees of the subordinate Civil Courts, 14 appeals from original decrees involved amounts below Rs. 500, 283 involved sums above Rs. 500 and in 64 the value was not denotable in money. Similar figures for appeals from appellate decrees were 2,319, 376 and 4, respectively.

Results of Appeals.

443. Of the 352 appeals from original decrees decided during the year, 38 were uncontested, being dismissed on default, withdrawn or compromised. Of those decided after contest 208 decrees of the Lower Courts were confirmed, 29 reversed, 57 varied and 20 remanded. Of the 2,412 appeals from appellate decrees, 593 were uncontested. One thousand eight hundred and nineteen were heard and determined with the result that 1,510 decrees of the Lower Courts were affirmed, 72 reversed, 53 varied and 184 remanded. Of the 400 appeals from orders decided during the last year, 95 were uncontested and 305 were decided after trial. Of the latter, 229 orders of the Lower Courts were affirmed, 33 reversed, 8 varied and 35 remanded.

Appeals to the Privy Council.

444. At the opening of the year 18 appeals to the Privy Council were under preparation for despatch to England, and 17 were pending orders. Thirty-eight new appeals were filed during the year. Of the total for disposal 15 were struck off or compromised, 19 were despatched to England and 39 appeals—3 of 1899, 6 of 1900 and 30 of 1901—were pending at the close of the year. Of the pending appeals 17 were under preparation for despatch to England at the close of the year. The results of 6 appeals to the Privy Council were received during the year. The decisions of the High Court were affirmed in 3 instances, and reversed in 3.

III.—Appellate Courts Subordinate to the High Court.

Regular Appeals: Institutions.

445. There were 20,483 regular appeals instituted in 1901. This represents an increase of 1,911 on the previous year's figures, which is doubtless due to the large increase of original suits in 1900. Of the number instituted in 1901 7,996 were in title-suits, 10,016 in rent-suits, and 2,471 in suits for money or moveables. The number is greater in each class than in the previous year. The number of appeals in suits valued at sums below Rs. 10 and between Rs. 10 and Rs. 50 was 2,501 and 6,739, respectively. The proportion of institutions of appeals of low value is slightly larger than in the previous

year. The total value of appeals instituted in subordinate Courts in 1901 was Rs. 32,88,934, exceeding the total of 1900 by nearly two-and-a-half lakhs. The number of cases in which an appeal lay, decided by subordinate Courts during the year, was 77,496; and the proportion of appeals instituted to appealable decisions, excluding appeals from decisions of Revenue Officers, was 25·6 per cent. as against 24·03 of the previous year. The highest percentages were 45·6 in Patna, 37·5 in Saran, 36·6 in Shahabad and 35·07 in Gaya; and the lowest were 12·4 in Dinajpur and 13·8 in Rangpur. The number of appeals instituted in 1901 was larger than in the previous year in twenty-one districts and smaller in eight. The largest increases were in Tirhut (466), Chittagong (304), Tippera (206), Backergunge (163), Saran (157), Cuttack (143), Noakhali (119), Patna (109), Faridpur (107) and Murshidabad (102); and the only noticeable decrease was in the 24-Parganas (156). In the remainder the variations were less than 100. The increase in Faridpur, Tirhut, Chittagong, Backergunge, Saran, Noakhali and Murshidabad was consecutive on increases reported from those districts in 1900; while the increases in Tippera, Patna and Cuttack represent a recovery from a considerable decline in that year. The decline in the 24-Parganas follows an increase in 1900.

Appeals disposed of.

446. The number of appeals disposed of was 19,836, an increase of 1,642 on the figures of the previous year. Disposals by District and Additional Judges and Subordinate Judges increased by 874 and 768, respectively. The general increase in disposals was spread over fourteen districts, the largest being in Midnapore (1,116), Tirhut (838), Shahabad (688), Chittagong (530), Patna (326), Backergunge (292) and Tippera (227). The most noticeable decreases were 480 in the 24-Parganas, 384 in Dacca, 357 in Saran, 216 each in Bhagalpur and Nadia, and 192 in Burdwan. In most cases the falling-off has been satisfactorily explained.

Appeals pending.

447. The number of appeals disposed of, though larger than that of the previous year, not having kept pace with the institutions, there was a further increase of arrears, the number of appeals pending at the close of 1901 showing an increase of 1,158 and amounting to 11,585.

The number of appeals pending for more than one year (582) showed a slight reduction as compared with 1900, when the number was 605. Appeals pending for more than three months rose from 4,015 to 4,486. Of the former the largest numbers were in Saran (237), Burdwan (90), Mymensingh (48) and the 24-Parganas (40). In Saran, as remarked last year, circumstances have been exceptional, civil litigation having very largely increased of late years owing to the survey and settlement operations. All of the 237 appeals pending over one year were before the District Judge, who was prevented by pressure of criminal work from giving sufficient time to them for their disposal. Assistance has been given to the District Judge since the close of the year, with a view to relieving him of some portion of the criminal work of the district. In Burdwan the work was found to be, for the time, beyond the capacity of the staff, and assistance has been given to it during the current year. The continued existence of heavy arrears in Mymensingh is unsatisfactory, having regard to the fact that four Subordinate Judges worked in the district throughout the year. The arrears have since been reduced. Assistance has been afforded to the staff of the 24-Parganas during the current year.

Results of Appeals.

448. The result on the decisions of the Lower Courts of the appeals decided during the year was as follows:—In 11,177 cases, or 56·3 per cent. of the whole, the judgment of the Lower Court was affirmed; in 2,260 cases, or 11·4 per cent., it was modified; and in 3,398, or 17·1 per cent., it was reversed. The relative proportions of the above figures are normal. The results are slightly less favourable to the Lower Courts than those of the preceding year. Nine hundred appeals were remanded, and 2,101 otherwise disposed of—that is, not prosecuted, or dismissed for default.

Miscellaneous Appeals.

449. There were 2,608 miscellaneous appeals instituted during the year and 2,555 were disposed of, the number pending at the close of the year being 721, or nearly one-half more than the average of the preceding five years.

Receipts and Charges of the Civil Courts.

450. The receipts of the Civil Courts for the year under review amounted to Rs. 1,10,76,209, a decrease of Rs. 2,33,269 on those of the previous year, and the charges to Rs. 55,55,890, an increase of Rs. 1,48,310 on those of 1900. Including the amount realised on account of duty on probates, etc., there was

a profit to Government from the Civil litigation of Rs. 55,20,319 and, exclusive of the item referred to, the surplus amounted to Rs. 49,53,905, or less by Rs. 4,58,156 than the surplus of 1900.

The profit to Government from civil litigation in 1891, inclusive of the amount realised on account of duty on probates, etc., was Rs. 40,20,343 and, exclusive of that item, it amounted to Rs. 35,05,003.

Receipts show a decrease on the previous year's figures of over 2½ lakhs, owing to the fall in the volume of litigation. There was a material increase in expenditure as compared with 1900, the charges for salaries of judicial and ministerial officers having risen by over ¾ lakh owing to the additional temporary appointments made during the year.

Administration of Civil Justice in the Sonthal Parganas.

451. The administration of Civil justice in the Sonthal Parganas during the year was satisfactory. There was a slight falling-off in institutions (from 12,070 to 11,385), and an improvement in disposals (from 11,573 to 12,354), while the number of cases left pending was lower than in any of the previous four years.

In Rajmahal and Jamtara the institutions under all classes increased, and there was also an increase in Dumka in rent-suits, owing to their transfer from the Settlement Courts. In Godda there was also an increase in money-suits. The increase in Rajmahal is undoubtedly due to the better working of the Courts. The same cause may possibly apply to Jamtara, and certainly in that subdivision the increase in rent-suits is also due to a succession of poor harvests in the south of the subdivision. In all other Courts, and for all other classes of cases, there was a decrease in institutions. Disposals generally followed institutions except in Godda where, in rent-suits, there was a marked increase compared with the preceding year, owing to the working off of arrears, while there was a decrease in institutions. The total number of cases disposed of exceeded those instituted by 894, allowing for 73 cases transferred to the Settlement Courts. The number of pending cases was considerably reduced, having fallen from 2,417 to 1,448, the only exception of importance being in Deoghur.

Execution Cases.

452. The result of execution cases, in which 5,184 out of 9,508 cases proved wholly infructuous, is unsatisfactory. It is, however, probable that in many cases decrees are satisfied out of Court and no return filed. The Commissioner has been asked to state in his next report in how many cases decrees are satisfied out of Court, and if the number is inconsiderable, to submit suggestions for an improvement in the existing procedure.

Arbitration.

453. There has again been an increase in the number of cases referred to arbitration, the figures rising from 436 in 1899 to 468 in 1900, and to 538 in 1901. This increase occurred mainly at Jamtara where an officer, new to the Sonthal Parganas' system, at first resorted to this procedure much too freely. There was a decline in Dumka and an increase in Deoghur. In these two subdivisions and also in Rajmahal this procedure is rather sparingly resorted to.

Witnesses.

454. The number of witnesses examined continues to increase (Deoghur and Godda alone showing a decrease) but there has been a considerable improvement in the detention of witnesses, the percentage of those detained over two days having fallen from 5·1 in the previous year to 3 in the year under report.

Appeals.

455. As regards appeals to officers in the district, there was a decrease in money and title-cases, but an increase in revenue cases. The net result was a decrease of 59 cases. The result of the appeals was, on the whole, good.

Before the Commissioner 165 appeals, including 27 pending from the preceding year, came up, with the result that orders were confirmed in 54, modified in 4 and reversed in 26 cases, and 8 were remanded. Of the 30 pending cases, 28 have been disposed of since the close of the year. The remaining appeals were either heard *exparte* or dismissed on default.

Registration.

[Triennial Report on the Administration of the Registration Department for 1899-1902; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section IX.]

Registration Offices.

456. There were 442 offices open for the registration of documents, of which 7 worked at a loss. The progress of these are being carefully watched.

Three of them have been retained for the convenience of isolated tracts, or for the encouragement of registration in backward districts.

Documents Registered.

457. The steady progress in the operations of the Registration Department continued during the year, and the total operations numbered 1,440,347, which appears to be the highest figure ever attained in Bengal. The total number of registrations affecting immoveable property rose from 1,158,094 in 1900-1901 to 1,254,797, of which 971,273 were compulsory and 283,524 optional. Deeds of sale or exchange of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards rose from 118,791 in 1900-1901 to 130,243, and those of the value of less than Rs. 100 from 238,148 to 249,742. The rise in the former class, however, seems to be due to the enhancement in the value of land, and to the consequent inclusion in that class of a number of petty holdings, the value of which in former years would have been less than Rs. 100. That the value of land has considerably risen in recent years is evident from the fact that raiyati holdings at fixed rates, which in 1894 used to be sold at an average of 12·2 years' purchase, now fetch as much as an average of 22 years' purchase. The number of transactions affecting raiyati holdings with occupancy rights has also risen considerably, and was 239,489 against 220,331 in the past year. The average value of these holdings has risen from 13 years' purchase in 1894-95 to 19 years' purchase. The districts where these transactions are common are Midnapore, Mymensingh, Tippera, Muzaffarpur and Puri. The purchasers of a large number of these holdings are the raiyats themselves. The steady increase in the number of deeds of gift is ascribed to the desire of the Muhammadans to overcome the disability to which they are subject, under the Muhammadan Law, for the disposition of their property according to their wishes. The number of such deeds was 12,117 against 11,151 of the preceding year. Instruments of mortgage of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards rose from 141,463 to 156,529, and those of perpetual leases from 95,619 to 98,451. Instruments of leases other than perpetual also rose from 278,862 to 304,836. One of the causes of the increase in this class of leases was the abandonment of indigo cultivation by planters in certain districts, and the letting out of the indigo lands on short leases for other cultivation.

Receipts and Expenditure.

458. The receipts, expenditure and surplus amounted to Rs. 16,51,822, Rs. 8,83,927 and Rs. 7,67,895, respectively, against Rs. 15,22,510, Rs. 8,49,288 and Rs. 6,73,222, respectively, of the preceding year.

Working of the Muhammadan Marriage Registration Act.

459. Act I (B. C.) of 1876 for the voluntary registration of Muhammadan marriages and divorces was in force in 30 districts, as in the preceding three years. The number of offices open, however, rose from 255 in 1900-1901 to 258, and the total number of ceremonies registered rose from 25,945 to 28,513, showing an increase of 2,568 ceremonies, or about 9·8 per cent.

Registrations under the Brahmo Marriage Act.

460. There were 34 marriages registered under the Act during the year, as against 24 in the previous year. Eighteen marriages were registered in Calcutta, 3 in the 24-Parganas, 3 in Dacca, 2 each in Mymensingh, Howrah and Patna, and 1 each in Krishnagar, Ranchi, Faridpur and Balasore.

There were 53 marriage registrars under the Act, besides 28 *ex-officio* marriage registrars. Of these, only 9 marriage registrars and 2 *ex-officio* marriage registrars registered marriages during the year. The ages of the bridegrooms ranged from 21 to 46, and those of brides from 14 to 30 years. Three widows, whose ages ranged from 22 to 24 years, were married, 2 of them being married to widowers.

Municipal Administration and Local Self-Government.

MUNICIPALITIES OUTSIDE CALCUTTA.

[Divisional Commissioners' Reports on the working of Municipalities in Bengal (except Calcutta) for 1901-1902; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XVII].

Number of Municipalities and Rate-payers.

461. The number of Municipalities in Bengal during the year ending with the 31st March 1902 was 157. Two new Municipalities were formed during the year at Tollyganj and Giridih, the former by dividing the South Suburban Municipality which had been found too large for efficient administration. The inhabitants of the 157 Municipalities number 2,839,764 persons. As the Giridih Municipality came into existence towards the close of the year, this

chapter deals with the statistics of 156 Municipalities. The total number of rate-payers rose from 478,519 to 487,767, representing 17·1 per cent. of the total municipal population. The increase was shared by all the Divisions except Orissa and Chota Nagpur, where there was a slight decline. The percentage of rate-payers to population varied between 18·7 in the Presidency Division and 14·3 in the Dacca Division. Taking, however, the case of individual Municipalities the percentage varied between 34·7 at Chapra and 5·1 at Kurseong.

Elections, Constitution of Committees, and attendance of Members.

462. General elections were held only in the Municipalities of Cossipore-Chitpur and Maniktala. All the elections but one were contested, and at those elections the percentage of attendance of persons qualified to vote varied between 65 and 43.

There was little variation in the composition of Municipal Committees. There were in all 2,541 meetings held during the year, almost the same number as in the previous year, and of these only 214, or 8·4 per cent, had to be adjourned. Twenty-nine Municipalities held more than 20 meetings during the year; whilst twenty-one failed to hold at least one meeting every month, as required by the law. Ranaghat again held the largest number of meetings, viz., 35 against 32 in the previous year, and Cossipore-Chitpur and Burdwan stand next with 30 and 29 meetings, respectively. The smallest number of meetings, viz., 7, was held in the Revelganj Municipality. Throughout the Province the average percentage of attendance of Commissioners was 52 as in the previous year. In 91 Municipalities as against 108 in the previous year, an average of more than one-half of the total number of Commissioners attended at each meeting. The highest percentages of attendance were at Garulia (81 per cent.), Tollyganj and Bihar (75 per cent.), Daltonganj (74 per cent.), and Kamarhati and North Barrackpore (73 per cent.): and the lowest, 21 per cent., at Jhalda. On the whole the frequency of the meetings and the attendance at them were sufficient for practical purposes.

Assessments and Taxation.

463. The main form of Municipal taxation is either the rate on holdings, or the alternative tax on persons according to their circumstances and property within the Municipality. The former system was in force in 43 towns, and the latter in the remaining 112 exclusive of the Municipality of Bhadreswar, where both forms of taxation are in force in different wards. The rate on holdings was levied at less than the maximum rate allowed by the law in 13 towns, among which the Municipalities of Howrah, Hooghly and Chinsura, Krishnagar and Darjeeling again find place, and the lowest rate, viz., 5 per cent. on the annual value of holdings, was levied at Sahebganj. The tax on persons is levied at varying rates according to requirements. Of the special rates the latrine-rate was levied in 103 towns, the water-rate in 10 towns which have been provided with a filtered water-supply (excepting the town of Dacca, where no water-rate is levied although the town is supplied with filtered water), and the lighting-rate only in two towns, viz., Howrah and Darjeeling, no rate being levied for the purpose in the other Municipalities adjoining Calcutta which are lighted with gas, or at Dacca which is lighted with electricity.

The incidence of Municipal taxation (excluding Calcutta) varied between Rs. 7-7-10 per head at Darjeeling and Re. 0-4-5 at Ramjibanpur. The average for the whole Province was Re. 1-2-10 against Re. 1-1-5 of the previous year. The number of Municipalities in which the taxation is below 8 annas per head fell from 38 in 1900-1901 to 32 during the year under review.

A revision of assessment, general or partial, came into force in several Municipalities, the best financial results being attained in Dacca, where there was an increase of Rs. 22,422, Howrah (Rs. 8,775), Gaya (Rs. 8,559), Arrah (Rs. 5,319) and Puri (Rs. 5,749).

Demands, Collections, Remissions, and Outstandings.

464. The current demand amounted to Rs. 32,79,297, showing an improvement of Rs. 92,520 as compared with the previous year; and the total demand on the Municipal books, including arrears, rose from Rs. 37,35,303 to Rs. 37,94,123. The total collections also rose from Rs. 30,25,244 to Rs. 32,39,390, and the outstanding balance at the close of the year was Rs. 3,66,274 against Rs. 5,18,670 at the beginning of the year, whilst the remissions fell again by Rs. 2,930. The collections of the year averaged 98·8 per cent. of the current demand, against 95 per cent. in the previous year. The collection of the current demand shows, as in the preceding year, an improvement of about 4 per cent.

When the results attained by the groups of Municipalities in each Division are considered, it appears that the highest percentage of total collections on current demand was 101·7, which was attained in the Patna Division; the Burdwan Division stands next with a percentage of 99·9; the lowest percentage, viz., 93·0, is returned by the Municipalities in the Chittagong Division. In individual Municipalities the percentage of total collections on current demand varied between 115·9 at Chittagong and 76·9 at Tollyganj. Calculating the total collections on the current demand, they failed to reach 95 per cent. in 26 towns. In 19 towns the Commissioners succeeded in realising the demand without leaving any arrears outstanding at the close of the year, or only a small amount not exceeding Rs. 10 in any case. The most successful were Asansol, Titagarh, Jhalakatti, Jamalpur, Dumraon, Hajipur, Deoghur, and Kendrapara. It appears that in all these towns there were no arrears at the beginning of the year, or only small outstanding balances to collect, and it is evident that if the taxes are promptly realised, the large remissions, which are such an unsatisfactory feature of some towns, can be avoided.

At Howrah, where the administration of this Department has been defective for some years past, the total collections rose from Rs. 4,48,600 in 1900-1901 to Rs. 4,96,121, and the collection of the current demand showed an improvement of Rs. 56,479. Although the percentage of total collections on the current demand shows a satisfactory rise from 92 per cent. to 100·4 per cent., the percentage of current collections on current demand stood only at 81·5. The balance was 1¼ lakhs out of a demand of 5 lakhs, and Rs. 62,045 were remitted during the year. The results, though better than in the preceding year, cannot be considered satisfactory. The Bally Municipality shows an advance of 5·5 per cent. in the percentage of total collection on total demand, but, in spite of large remissions, the outstanding balance was Rs. 11,410 out of a current demand of Rs. 21,890. The Commissioners only succeeded in raising 62·3 per cent. of their current demand for the year. The Hooghly and Chinsura Municipality also shows an advance of 6 per cent. in the percentage of total collections on total demand, but the collection of the current demand (71·4 per cent.) was unsatisfactory. A satisfactory advance was made at Chittagong, where 96·4 per cent. of the total demand was collected, against 55·3 per cent. in the previous year. The collections in Burdwan were unsatisfactory. Only half the arrears were realised, and the outstanding balance was about one-fifth of the current demand. In Ranchi large arrears accumulated in previous years, and only a small portion could be collected. The collection of the current demand was also unsatisfactory, although it is said that punctual payments are now being enforced.

The percentage of total remissions on current demand for the whole Province fell from 6·0 to 5·7 during the year. It is satisfactory to note that, with this fall in the percentage of remissions, the percentage of outstanding balance on the total demand, which stood at 9·6 per cent., also shows a decline of 4·3 per cent., as compared with the previous year. Calculated on the current demand, the percentage of remission varied between 9·7 per cent. in the Burdwan Division and 1·9 per cent. in the Chittagong Division. The Bhagalpur and Chota Nagpur Divisions return large percentages of remissions, viz., 7·8 per cent. and 8·2 per cent. The Bhagalpur Municipality allowed a total remission of Rs. 12,799, or 17·3 per cent. of the current demand in order to clear off old accounts which were unrealisable owing, it is reported, to persons having left the town, and to the reduced circumstances of some of the ratepayers. There was still a large outstanding balance of Rs. 25,370, or about 34 per cent. of the current demand, at the close of the year. These results compare unfavourably with those at Patna, where the remissions were only 1·8 per cent., and the balance about 3 per cent. of the current demand. Large remissions were also allowed in the Municipalities of Hooghly and Chinsura (19·1 per cent. of the current demand), Bhadreswar (10·4 per cent.), Bansberia (10·8 per cent.), Howrah (12·5 per cent.), Garden Reach (21·6 per cent.), Rajpur (14·6 per cent.), Samastipur (12 per cent.), Ranchi (10·7 per cent.), Lohardaga (13·8 per cent.) and Purulia (12·8 per cent.).

465. The tax on animals and vehicles under section 86(*a*) of the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, was introduced into the Municipalities of Barh and Madhubani. License fees under section 261 of the Municipal Act, for carrying

Fresh Imposts levied during the year.

on offensive and dangerous trades, were levied for the first time in the North Dum-Dum, Jessore, Faridpur and Rosera Municipalities. Fees for the cleansing of private privies were levied in the Municipalities of North Dum-Dum and Jajpur, and in portions of the South Suburban and North Barrackpore Municipalities.

INCOME.

466. The total funds available for expenditure were Rs. 51,62,352 against Rs. 49,77,650 in the previous year. The total expenditure was Rs. 45,56,164 against Rs. 43,72,575 in 1900—1901. The aggregate closing balances of the Municipalities, which stood at Rs. 6,06,188, shows a slight increase of Rs. 1,113 as compared with the previous year. In several cases funds are being accumulated for schemes of Municipal reforms, and in others money was reserved for probable plague charges. Savings effected in estimated expenditure, and the inability to fully utilise loan funds or contributions also led to the increase in some Municipalities. In Monghyr the closing balance was over Rs. 25,000, a large part of which is required for the drainage scheme, but the Commissioners have been recommended to spend as much as can be spared on conservancy requirements, which are urgent. It is said that many of the public latrines are in ruins, and plague and cholera are always present. The working balances fell below Rs. 100 in several Municipalities, which must have caused some inconvenience.

The following statement shows the total income of the Municipalities under various heads during the past year and the variations from the previous year :—

Head of Revenue.	Total receipts, 1901-1902.	Comparison with 1900-1901.		
		Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of variation.
1. Municipal rates and taxes—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(a) Tax on houses and lands ...	11,96,554	1,02,151	.....	+ 9·3
(b) „ on animals and vehicles	2,42,439	7,137	.....	+ 3·0
(c) „ on professions and trades	57,361	2,080	.....	+ 3·7
(d) Tolls on roads and at ferries	1,51,812	8,367	.....	+ 5·8
(e) Water-rate	2,58,125	22,143	.....	+ 9·3
(f) Lighting-rate	86,208	15,803	.....	+ 22·4
(g) Conservancy (including scavenging and latrine-rates).	7,45,156	74,382	.....	+ 11·0
(h) Tax on persons according to circumstances and property.	5,70,632	8,217	.....	+ 1·4
(i) Miscellaneous penalties, etc. ...	29,129	8,473	.....	+ 41·0
2. Realizations under special Acts ...	98,954	2,546	.....	+ 2·6
3. Revenue derived from Municipal property and powers apart from taxation	3,63,865	24,108	.....	+ 7·1
4. Grants and contributions for general and special purposes ...	3,14,786	19,143	.....	+ 6·4
5. Miscellaneous ...	1,35,531	35,463	.....	+ 35·4
6. Extraordinary and debt—				
(a) Sale proceeds of Government securities and withdrawals from Savings Bank ...	114	.....	9,286	— 98·8
(b) Loans	60,100	.....	1,48,900	— 71·2
(c) Realizations of Sinking Fund for repayment of loans.	.....	.....	2,310	—100·0
(d) Advances	1,75,868	18,292	.....	+ 11·6
(e) Deposits	70,704	.....	6,690	— 8·6
Total ...	45,57,338	3,48,305	1,67,186	.....
Net increase ...	.....	1,81,119		+ 4·1

The increase of Rs. 1,81,119 in the revenue shown above does not represent the real increase in the ordinary revenues of the Municipalities, for

they borrowed Rs. 1,48,900 less than in 1900-1901. Excluding the receipts under "6—Extraordinary and debt," the total real income amounted to Rs. 42,50,552 against Rs. 39,20,539 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 3,50,013, or 8·4 per cent.

The permanent increase in income derived from taxation proper amounted to Rs. 2,48,753, or 8·0 per cent. The increase was shared by all the Divisions, and was largest in the Burdwan Division.

Tax on houses and lands.

467. This tax yielded a revenue of Rs. 11,96,554, which was Rs. 1,02,151 in excess of the income during the previous year. The increase was shared, more or less, by the groups of Municipalities in all the Divisions. The largest increase of Rs. 24,207 and Rs. 24,863 occurred, respectively, in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions. There were large increases in the Municipalities of Burdwan (Rs. 7,234), Hooghly-Chinsura (Rs. 4,381), Serampore (Rs. 2,330), Howrah (Rs. 11,948), Garden Reach (Rs. 4,032), Dacca (Rs. 13,790), Chittagong (Rs. 5,080), Patna (Rs. 2,699), Gaya (Rs. 3,497), Muzaffarpur (Rs. 9,132), Monghyr (Rs. 3,953), Jamalpur (Rs. 2,162), Puri (Rs. 3,720) and Ranchi (Rs. 2,393). At Budge-Budge, which was formed into a Municipality only in the previous year, the income rose from Rs. 4,197 to Rs. 16,297. The increase at Chittagong was due to the realisation of taxes due from the Assam-Bengal Railway for the last three years. Revised assessments brought into operation during the year and better collection of both arrear and current demand, contributed generally to the increases under this head in the other towns.

Tax on Animals and Vehicles, and on Professions and Trades.

468. There was an increase of Rs. 7,137, or 3·0 per cent., in the revenue under this head, which was shared by several Municipalities, the largest increase of Rs. 3,069 occurring in the Rangpur Municipality, where the rate of fees on the registration of carts was raised from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per annum. The comparatively small revenue from taxes on professions and trades shows a small increase of Rs. 2,080. This was shared by all the Divisions, except Bhagalpur and Orissa, where there was a decline of revenue, whilst the income was stationary in the Burdwan Division. In the Chota Nagpur Division the income rose from Rs. 680 in 1900-1901 to Rs. 1,179.

Tolls at Ferries.

469. Tolls are nowhere levied on roads in Bengal, but 49 Municipalities derive an income from ferries. The largest increase of income under this head occurred in the Municipalities of Patna (Rs. 4,014), Bhagalpur (Rs. 2,807), Chandpur (Rs. 1,265) and Chittagong (Rs. 1,187); while there was a decline of Rs. 1,558 at Muzaffarpur, Rs. 1,257 at Narayanganj and at Daudnagar, where the income fell from Rs. 1,025 in 1900-1901 to Rs. 256. The realisation of arrears accounts for the increase at Patna and Bhagalpur; the increase in the other places, and part of that at Bhagalpur, was due to competition among the lessees of the ferries.

Water-rate.

470. This rate was in force in 10 Municipalities against 9 in the previous year, having for the first time been levied in the South Dum-Dum Municipality during the year under review. The income of Rs. 2,58,125 shows an increase of Rs. 22,143, which was shared by the Municipalities of Burdwan (Rs. 4,566), Howrah (Rs. 9,917), Maniktala (Rs. 4,555), Berhampore (Rs. 1,023) and Arrah (Rs. 1,999). The income fell off at Cossipore-Chitpur, and at Bhagalpur, where the decline amounted to Rs. 1,377. The increase at Howrah and Burdwan was due to the extension of the service and at Maniktala to the raising of the rate from 1½ to 3 per cent. on the annual value of holdings. Recovery of arrears accounts for the increase at Arrah. There was a decline at Bhagalpur, due to the causes mentioned in paragraph 480.

Lighting-rate.

471. The income which amounted to Rs. 86,208 rose both at Howrah and Darjeeling, where the rate is in force, by Rs. 2,754 and Rs. 13,049, respectively. At Darjeeling the increase was due mainly to the inclusion under this head of the amounts realized for making private connections during the year under report, which in previous years were credited under "Actual cost of private works."

Conservancy, including Scavenging and Latrine rates.

472. The revenue under this head, which amounted to Rs. 7,45,156, shows an increase of Rs. 74,382, or 11·0 per cent. over the income during the previous year. The increase occurred mainly in the Municipalities of Burdwan (Rs. 3,393), Hooghly and Chinsura (Rs. 2,312), Howrah (Rs. 23,052), Titagar, (Rs. 2,645), Garden Reach (Rs. 2,767), Dacca (Rs. 2,947), Gaya

(Rs. 5,062), Muzaffarpur (Rs. 7,907) and Jamalpur (Rs. 2,208). The increase is generally attributed to more efficient administration, whilst at Gaya the previous year's accounts showed only the income for three months, and at Titagur the rate was raised.

Several Municipalities continued their efforts towards making the trenching-grounds a source of income; but, as in previous years, the result was trifling. Monghyr and Ranchi were most successful in the disposal of their sewage.

Tax on persons according to their Circumstances and Property within the Municipality.

473. The total revenue of Rs. 5,70,632 shows a small increase of Rs. 8,217 as compared with the previous year. The increase was shared by several Municipalities and was marked in Arrah (Rs. 2,735) and Balasore (Rs. 2,235). Revision of assessment and collection of arrears account for the increase. The income declined by Rs. 2,567 at Dinajpur, Rs. 2,059 at Puri, and Rs. 1,565 at Cuttack. At Dinajpur the decline is only apparent, as there was a corresponding increase in the income under the tax on houses and lands of Rs. 2,022, and at Puri this system of taxation, which was introduced experimentally, was abandoned. Short collections are responsible for the decline at Cuttack.

Grants from Provincial and Local Funds and contributions by Private Individuals.

474. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 3,14,786, showing an increase of Rs. 19,143. The contributions were for medical purposes Rs. 1,74,267, education Rs. 8,487, and for general purposes Rs. 1,32,032.

EXPENDITURE.

475. The total expenditure in the Municipalities of the Province (excluding Calcutta) amounted during the year to Rs. 45,56,164, against Rs. 43,72,575 in 1900-1901, being an increase of Rs. 1,83,589. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 6,06,188, against Rs. 6,05,075 in the preceding year. The percentages which the expenditure under each of the principal heads bore to the total outlay (excluding debt and suspense heads) in each of the past five years) are as follows:—

Year.	General establishment.	Lighting.	Water-supply.	Drainage.	Conservancy.	Medical.	Vaccination.	Public Works.	Education.
1897-98 ...	10·4	7·2	7·4	3·2	30·3	9·7	·57	17·1	3·7
1898-99 ...	10·6	4·4	5·9	3·4	31·7	10·5	·5	16·3	3·4
1899-1900 ...	10·4	5·8	6·5	3·5	29·5	10·5	·5	18·3	3·4
1900-1901 ...	11·4	5·7	6·7	5·2	31·1	11·5	·53	15·0	3·3
1901-1902 ...	10·0	6·0	6·1	4·2	31·3	11·8	·53	16·5	3·2

The percentages for the past year shown in the table above are exclusive of expenditure met from loan funds.

476. The following statement shows the expenditure of 1901-1902 under the main heads, compared with that of the previous year:—

Heads of Expenditure.	Total expenditure in 1901-1902.	Comparison with 1900-1901.		
		Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of variation.
1. General administration—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(*a*) Office establishment, &c. ...	2,14,939	4,712	...	+ 2·2
(*b*) Collection of taxes, &c. ...	1,90,613	10,873	...	+ 6·0
(*c*) „ of tolls ...	1,022	96	...	+ 10·3
(*d*) Survey of land	8,016	...	1,641	− 16·9
(*e*) Refunds	5,339	3,160	...	+ 145·0
(*f*) Pensions and gratuities ...	856	76	...	+ 9·7

Heads of Expenditure.	Total expenditure in 1901-1902.	Comparison with 1900-1901.		
		Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of variation.
2. Public Safety—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
(*a*) Fire (establishment, &c.) ...	22,791	...	1,326	— 5·5
(*b*) Lighting	2,44,816	24,524	...	+ 11·1
(*c*) Police	18,384	1,213	...	+ 7·0
(*d*) Rewards for destruction of wild animals	2,230	168	...	+ 8·1
3. Public Health and Convenience—				
(*a*) Water-supply	2,49,351	...	10 911	— 4·1
(*b*) Drainage	1,72,151	...	31,368	— 15·4
(*c*) Conservancy (including road-cleaning and watering) and latrines	12,68,329	59,715	...	+ 4·9
(*d*) Hospitals and dispensaries ...	4,48,847	3,205	...	+ 0·7
(*e*) Vaccination	21,523	749	...	+ 3·6
(*f*) Market and slaughter-houses ...	25,405	2,502	...	+ 10·9
(*g*) Pounds	5,239	...	571	— 9·8
(*h*) Dâk bungalows and serais ...	1,295	616	...	+ 90·7
(*i*) Arboriculture, &c.	12,912	905	...	+ 7·5
(*j*) Public works—				
(*i*) Establishment ...	85,092	2,078	...	+ 2·5
(*ii*) Buildings	58,598	17,814	...	+ 43·6
(*iii*) Roads	5,10,922	55,824	...	+ 12·2
(*iv*) Stores	14,921	10,643	...	+ 248·7
4. Public instruction	1,32,340	5,417	...	+ 4·2
5. Contribution for general purposes ...	10,256	5,328	...	+ 108·1
6. Miscellaneous	3,76,143	60,884	...	+ 19·3
7. Extraordinary and debt—				
(*a*) Investments (Government securities and Savings Banks) ...	63,275	...	79,727	— 55·0
(*b*) Payment to sinking funds ...	10,500	...	...	...
(*c*) Provident Fund withdrawals ...	...	...	...	...
(*d*) Repayment of loans ...	1,13,595	8,947	...	+ 8·5
(*e*) Advances	1,85,888	5,975	...	+ 3·3
(*f*) Deposits	80,576	23,709	...	+ 41·6
Total ...	45,56,164	3,09,133	1,25,544	...
Net increase ...	...	1,83,589		+ 4·1

Office and Collection Establishment.

477. The expenditure under this head is growing in spite of the careful scrutiny of the annual estimates by the Commissioners of Divisions. A standard has recently been prescribed by the Presidency Commissioner fixing 7½ per cent. of the collections as the standard cost of management in Municipalities. It is hoped that this order will produce a good effect in the future, but at present the average is over 10 per cent. In the case of two Municipalities in this Division a preaudit of establishment bills by the Magistrate's office was ordered, and was successful in checking irregular and unauthorised expenditure.

Prevention of Fire.

478. The expenditure under this head shows a decline of Rs. 1,326. As in previous years, almost the entire amount of the charge was incurred in the Municipalities adjoining Calcutta which are served by the Metropolitan Fire-brigade.

Street Lighting.

479. The expenditure rose from Rs. 2,20,292 in 1900-1901 to Rs. 2,44,816, showing an increase of Rs. 24,524, or 11·1 per cent., which occurred mainly

in the Municipalities of Howrah (Rs. 15,805) and Darjeeling (Rs. 10,001). The payment of arrear gas-bills at Howrah and the purchase of materials for the electric-light installation at Darjeeling account for the rise of expenditure in those places. The only other Municipality which is lighted with electricity is Dacca, but the installation, which was a gift of the late Nawab Sir Khwaja Ahsanullah Bahadur, K.C.I.E., is in the hands of a board of trustees, the Municipality only contributing for the lighting of the streets the amount it formerly used to spend on oil-lamps.

Water-supply.

480. The expenditure under this head was Rs. 2,49,351, showing a decline of Rs. 10,911, or 4·1 per cent. The decrease was mainly in the Municipalities of Darjeeling, Dacca and Bhagalpur, where the expenditure declined by Rs. 15,576, Rs. 2,051 and Rs. 13,030, respectively, whilst on the other hand the expenditure increased in the Municipalities of Cossipore-Chitpur (Rs. 3,078), Maniktala (Rs. 3,112) and Berhampore (Rs. 5,978). The whole of Cossipore-Chitpur and a portion of Maniktala receive a supply of filtered water from the mains of the Calcutta Corporation. The Municipal Commissioners of Maniktala spent Rs. 4,828 in replacing 2,450 feet of existing pipes by others of a larger dimension. The Commissioners intend to extend the water-supply further in that Municipality at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,83,992, and the proposals have received the sanction of Government.

The scheme for the supply of filtered water in the Garden Reach Municipality has already been sanctioned, and a loan of Rs. 45,000 has been granted for the purpose. The work will be undertaken during the current year. The filtered-water scheme for the South Suburban Municipality, as well as a loan of Rs. 29,000 for its execution, has also been sanctioned by Government. Some of the Mill authorities in Naihati, Bhatpara, Titagar and Garulia continued to supply filtered water to the public free of charge from their mills. It is proposed to extend this system, so as to provide the entire population of these Municipalities with filtered water at a small cost. The supply of filtered water at Berhampore is giving general satisfaction, and the Larymore boiler put up at Barasat continued to yield excellent water. The decrease of expenditure at Darjeeling was due to the absence of expenditure on new works. A revised scheme has been sanctioned for the improvement and extension of the water-supply, which is estimated to cost Rs. 1,87,893. The decline at Dacca was in the cost of maintenance of the water-works in that town. At Bhagalpur the payments of the previous year were unusually high, which accounts for the decrease of expenditure during 1901-1902. The difficulties of connection with the river have been partially removed, but the reservoirs and house-connections gave trouble during the year.

Considerable activity was displayed during the year in several Municipalities in excavating tanks and sinking masonry and tube-wells, in improving existing sources of supply, and especially in reserving selected tanks and wells for drinking and culinary purposes. The provision of a filtered water-supply is beyond the means of any but the larger and more wealthier municipalities, but almost every town can do something to extend or improve its water-supply, a measure of real and widespread beneficence.

Drainage.

481. The total expenditure was Rs. 1,72,151, showing a decrease of Rs. 31,368, or 15·4 per cent., as compared with the expenditure of the previous year. This decrease occurred under capital outlay, the maintenance charges showing a small increase of Rs. 1,637. The decrease was shared mainly by the Municipalities of Krishnagar (Rs. 5,104), Darjeeling (Rs. 3,395), Rangpur (Rs. 4,459), Patna (Rs. 22,486), Tikari (Rs. 2,051) and Monghyr (Rs. 2,013), whilst there were comparatively large increases at Howrah (Rs. 3,134), Asansol (Rs. 2,899) and Raniganj (Rs. 3,240). Large capital expenditure, which was incurred in the previous year on the improvement of drains, accounts for the apparent decline in the Municipalities named above. The improvements at Monghyr were continued, and an outfall scheme is being carried out. Schemes for the improvement of drainage have been prepared for the Municipalities of Cossipur-Chitpur and Maniktala, and the latter is now before the Sanitary Board. It is satisfactory to find from the reports that steps are being taken in several other Municipalities for the improvement of drainage.

Conservancy, including Road-cleaning, Road-watering, and Latrines.

482. The expenditure of Rs. 12,68,329 shows a large increase of Rs. 59,715, or 4·9 per cent., as compared with the previous year. Taking the Municipalities in groups of Divisions, the increase was shared by those of the Burdwan, Presidency, Rajshahi, Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions, those in the two first-named Divisions showing the largest increases of Rs. 35,803 and Rs. 29,015, respectively. The expenditure declined in the rest of the Divisions, and most markedly in the Patna Division, where it fell by Rs. 13,554. The increaseed expenditure of Rs. 20,742, Rs. 3,195 and Rs. 2,476 incurred by the Municipalities of Howrah, Burdwan and Midnapore contributed mainly to the large increase returned from the Burdwan Division. At Howrah the increase was due to the large purchase of disinfectants, higher prices of fodder, acquisition of land, the construction of bacteriological filters, purchase of a number of sullage carts, and the payment of all bills received up to March. The other Municipalities which returned comparatively large increases of expenditure in the other Divisions were Cossipore-Chitpur (Rs. 5,139), Maniktala (Rs. 3,013), Garden Reach (Rs. 2,182), Budge-Budge (Rs. 4,313), Titagar (Rs. 4,239), Darjeeling (Rs. 3,674) and Cuttack (Rs. 2,355). On the other hand the expenditure declined largely in the Municipalities of Narayanganj (Rs. 4,169), Patna (Rs. 3,594), Bihar (Rs. 15,670) and Monghyr (4,890). At Monghyr the decline was due to the fact that in the previous year an increased expenditure was incurred to secure greater cleanliness of the town so as to prevent the importation of plague. The improvement of *bustees* in Municipalities near Calcutta is being taken up systematically under section 245 of the Municipal Act, but progress is necessarily slow.

The expenditure on conservancy exceeded 50 per cent. of the total expenditure in five towns, viz., Titagar (64·5), Baranagar (53·2), Garulia (53·4), Bhatpara (50·7) and Noakhali (51·0). The first four Municipalities are largely managed by the mill authorities, and the attention paid in them to this important branch of administration is gratifying.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

483. The expenditure under this head rose from Rs. 4,45,642 in 1900-1901 to Rs. 4,48,847. The increase was shared by the Burdwan, Presidency, Chittagong and Chota Nagpur Divisions, and was largest in the Presidency Division. The expenditure declined in the remaining Divisions, and the fall was largest in the Dacca Division, where it amounted to Rs. 9,517. The increase of Rs. 12,460 at Howrah accounts mainly for the increase in the Burdwan Division; but no explanation has been given. Large increases of expenditure are also returned by the Municipalities of Baranagar (Rs. 7,654), Cossipore-Chitpur (Rs. 4,951), Maniktala (Rs. 2,367), Darjeeling (Rs. 4,035), Rangpur Rs. (2,306), Monghyr (Rs. 4,358), Bhagalpur (Rs. 3,314), Comilla (Rs. 3,217) and Purulia (Rs. 3,694). The employment of two plague Health Officers and a gang of coolies accounts for the increase at Baranagar and Cossipore-Chitpur, and at Darjeeling it was due to the purchase of more European medicines and instruments for the dispensary and the provision of increased accommodation in the small-pox hospital. The construction of a ward for female patients contributed to the increase at Comilla and Purulia, and at the latter place a separate hospital was also built for contagious diseases. Large decreases of expenditure occurred in the Municipalities of Narayanganj (Rs. 10,241), Dinapur (Rs. 3,328), Gaya (Rs. 10,691) and Puri (Rs. 4,826). The cost of a new dispensary building, constructed at Narayanganj in the previous year, accounts for the apparent decline in the year under review. Payment of arrear bills in the previous year, reduction of plague charges, and the completion of certain works of improvement in the previous year were, respectively, responsible for the decline of expenditure in the other towns. Only two Municipalities, against five in the previous year, incurred no expenditure whatever on medical aid.

Vaccination.

484. The total expenditure under this head of Rs. 21,523 shows a small increase of Rs. 749. The best work was done in the Monghyr and Bhagalpur Municipalities, where each operator performed over 1,400 operations at an average cost of about 3 annas.

Public Works.

485. The expenditure under this head rose from Rs. 5,83,174 to Rs. 6,69,533, showing a large increase of Rs. 86,359. The increase occurred under all the sub-heads—"Establishment," "Buildings," "Roads," and "Stores," and was largest under "Roads," being Rs. 55,824.

Public Instruction.

486. The expenditure under this head, which amounted to Rs. 1,32,340, shows a small increase of Rs. 5,417. The expenditure on primary education was Rs. 67,090, or 2·6 per cent. of the aggregate ordinary income of the Municipalities in Bengal. This falls below the standard of 3·2 per cent. prescribed by Government, and the controlling authorities have been asked to see that during the current year a proper provision, suitable to the different Municipalities, is made for the extension of primary education.

Loans.

487. The South Suburban and Barasat Municipalities in the Presidency Division, and the Dinajpur and Darjeeling Municipalities in the Rajshahi Division, obtained loans of Rs. 29,000, Rs. 1,100 (being the second instalment of the loan), Rs. 10,000, and Rs. 20,000, respectively, from Government. The first two loans were for the improvement of water-supply, and the others for improvement of drainage and for the electric-light installation at Darjeeling. All the Municipalities indebted to Government paid the interest and instalments on their loans in full, and no instance of default was brought to the notice of Government. There appears from the accounts to be no danger that any of the Municipalities in debt to Government will be unable to meet their liabilities in future.

Audit of Accounts and Embezzlements.

488. A considerable number of cases of embezzlement came to notice during the year under review, most of them being facilitated by laxity of supervision over the collection establishment. The defalcations occurred in the Municipalities of Hooghly and Chinsura, Serampore, Azimganj, Garulia, Narayanganj, Netrokona, Patna, Gaya, and Bhagalpur. Considering the simple nature of Municipal accounts, the carefully prepared account rules, and the system of regular audits. it is much to be regretted that so many cases of embezzlement have to be chronicled every year. No less than six cases occurred in Bhagalpur, the offenders being the tax-collectors of the Municipality.

Working of the Porters and Dandiwallas Act.

489. Bengal Act V of 1883 for the control of porters and *dandiwallas* was in force only in the Darjeeling Municipality. The total number of porters and *dandiwallas* registered during the year was 843, against 775 in the previous year. There were 12 prosecutions against 23 in 1900-1901, and the amount of fines realized was Rs. 11-10. Three licenses were cancelled during the year. The law continued to be worked carefully and to produce good results.

General.

490. The Divisional Commissioners have reported favourably on the general working of the Municipalities of the Province, with a few exceptions, which include those situated in the Nadia District and the Municipality of Pabna. The main difficulty is to secure a full and equitable assessment, and suggestions are made that in all cases joint assessors should be appointed. The defects in assessments are responsible not only for insufficient revenues, but also for delay and friction in the collection of taxes, which react upon the whole system of administration. In other respects there is evidence that the Commissioners have worked well for the improvement of their Municipalities and there are few complaints of lethargy or of difficulties caused by party spirit. The year has generally been one of steady improvement. Taxes have on the whole been collected with greater punctuality. The percentage of expenditure on administration has decreased, while the amounts spent on the main branches of municipal administration have increased. A readiness has been shown to initiate and carry out large schemes for water supply and drainage, especially in the towns near the metropolis.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

[The Administration Report of the Calcutta Municipality for the year 1901-1902; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XVII.]

General.

491. THE revised constitution of the Calcutta Municipality continued during the year to work smoothly and to produce good results, and the Commissioners discharged their duties zealously. The Corporation met 23 times during they ear, and on an average over two-thirds of the Commissioners attended each meeting. The General Committee held 56 meetings, and the average attendance was 10 out of 12. There were 10 Special Committees

and 19 Sub-Committees appointed during the year, and it is evident that much good work was done by them.

Reorganization of Administrative Departments.

492. The main features of the year were the reorganization of Administrative Departments and the completion of arrangements for undertaking works of improvement. Defects of previous years and old obstructions to good administration are being cleared away. Outstanding claims have been settled by arbitration, with the result that demands amounting to Rs. 10,69,602 have been reduced to Rs. 4,27,945, and have been paid off. Simultaneously, by a reorganization of the Collection Department, the large balance of outstanding taxes, amounting to Rs. 9,23,095 on 31st March 1901, has been reduced by collections and cancellations to Rs. 4,19,197. Of the total outstandings, only Rs. 3,29,157 could be collected; but much good work has been done in clearing up the confusion in this department. Since the close of the year further cancellations have been ordered, and it is expected that only about $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs will remain, which must be realized by civil suits.

493. Among the schemes of reorganization may be noticed the division of the town into four districts, which was experimentally begun in 1900. Each district is now completely manned with a Health Department and an Engineering Department, so arranged as to be easily controlled by the Central Office. The control of the Conservancy Department has been transferred from the Health Officer to the Engineer. The co-operation of Ward Commissioners has been invited, and has been made possible by the division of the town into districts for administrative purposes, and the development of this system, by which the services of Municipal Commissioners interested in the conservancy and improvement of their districts can be fully utilized, promises excellent results. The Collection Department was reorganized during the year by the amalgamation of the Collection and Warrant Departments. The previous Collector had no coercive powers, and the issue of warrants by a separate department involved delays which resulted in a large accumulation of arrears, as already mentioned. Warrants are now issued generally within three months of the tax becoming due. The consequence has been that during the past year over 98 per cent. of the real current demand was collected. The results cannot be compared with those of previous years, as the collections were made from the current demand only, whereas for previous years the percentage of collections was calculated on the current and arrear demand, but the figures as they stand are eminently satisfactory. It does not appear that any undue coercion had to be exercised during the year. Out of the total collections of Rs. 42,05,935, only Rs. 1,07,393, or 2·5 per cent., were collected by coercive measures. Distrained property was removed in 117 cases, and sold in 32 cases. It was not to be expected that a system which seeks to enforce punctual payment could be introduced without some discontent, but it is now reported that the pressure of the Warrant Department is a thing of the past, and that rate-payers have become habituated to the prompt and punctual payment of municipal demands. The working of the License Department was less satisfactory, for the revenue has not increased in proportion to the growth of the city, and the system is obviously deficient in certain particulars, while the percentage of collections was only 79·88.

494. Other improvements during the year which remain to be noticed were the reorganization of the Workshop and the abolition of the Store Department, which has been a source of much wasteful expenditure in the past. The Secretary's office was placed on a better footing, and there is now less delay in dealing with correspondence and complaints. The revision of the system of accounts is in progress, and it is hoped that this difficult matter will soon be satisfactorily concluded. The Municipal Market, which has become an increasing source of income, has been improved, and is about to be extended. A better system of lighting the streets has become possible under the new contract, and Welsbach lamps are to be generally introduced: during the year 5,000 new burners were supplied. The Building Department was reorganized and placed under the Deputy Chairman, with four qualified surveyors, who have taken the place of the large establishment previously employed under the Road and Engineering Department. The health Department is now altogether dissociated from the Building Department, and it is a question whether this is altogether desirable. It appears that the Health Department is restricted to independent

action in connection with existing nuisances only, but special cases must sometimes arise where the opinion of the Health Officer would be valuable in regard to applications for new buildings. If it be the case that the insanitary condition of certain areas in Calcutta is due more to structural defects than to any other cause, the importance of intimate relations between the Building and Health Departments is obvious. It is satisfactory that the methods for dealing with building applications have been clearly laid down, and are being enforced by qualified surveyors. It is observed that there are still difficulties of procedure to be overcome, and that it has not been possible to give full effect to the provisions of the Act on the subject. It is especially difficult to deal with mistakes of the past, but something has been done to define the legal position, and it is hoped that arrangements will be made to prevent the delays in procedure which have hitherto operated against the usefulness of the Department. The Building Department dealt with 7,148 applications during the year; but it is not said how they were disposed of. Apparently a large number were summarily rejected on the ground that they were not accompanied by plans: of the applications properly submitted, about 65 per cent. were sanctioned. The work of the Department has been considerably helped by the appointment of the new Municipal Magistrate, who has after local enquiries caused many works to be carried out in accordance with the regulations. On the other hand, it is unsatisfactory that out of 725 cases in which demolition was ordered by him the orders were obeyed in only 80 cases, and a further report on the subject has been called for. Bye-laws were framed on certain subjects during the year, but there has been considerable delay in submitting, for the final approval of Government, a set of bye-laws dealing with obstructions and encroachments on streets and the regulation of markets and slaughter-houses.

Conservancy.

495. As regards conservancy, there are indications that more might be done towards the cleansing of the streets, especially in the poorer parts of the town. The difficulty appears to lie in the provision of carts and bullocks or ponies, though there was a considerable increase of expenditure on this account. It is hoped that the Corporation will be successful with the improved system of incineration which is about to be introduced, and that an extension of the *gowkhanas* will enable the municipal cattle to be used to greater advantage.

Engineering Department.

496. The outturn of work done by the Engineering Department would have been greater but for the delay in carrying out the Suburban Drainage Scheme. The scheme had been well advanced on lines generally approved by Mr. Baldwin Latham, but, on a further reference to him upon certain disputed points, he recommended a new design for the outfall, by which the sewage should flow direct from the drains into a tidal channel. Government has agreed with the Commissioners that this proposal is unsuitable, and it is hoped that the scheme, as now approved, will be completed as rapidly as possible. Four lakhs of rupees were expended during the year on the town and suburban sewage outfall and the works connected therewith. The most important work in hand is the completion of the main sewer from Kidderpore to Ballygunge, and of the outfall. It appears that this sewer has been constructed on a scale which is not approved by Mr. Latham, and care will be necessary to prevent the deposit of silt. The other sewers will be constructed in accordance with his recommendations.

During the year the Corporation submitted for the information of Government a report by the Engineer on a rough scheme for securing a continuous system of filtered water in the city, as required by the law, in lieu of the present intermittent system of supply. The main features of the proposal were the abolition of two pumping-stations which had cost the Corporation, in round numbers, 19 lakhs besides cost of land, and the institution of raised reservoirs with new distributing mains, waste-water metres, stop-cocks in house-connections, &c., at an estimated cost of 18 lakhs. The Chief Engineer and Sanitary Engineer to Government were thereupon deputed to examine the existing water-supply system of Calcutta, with a view to ascertain the best and most economical method of introducing a continuous system of supply. The result of their enquiries was a suggestion to utilise the existing expensive works, and only supplement them where necessary. The report was communicated to the Corporation for their consideration and has since been accepted.

497. The health of the town was not as good as usual during the year. The number of deaths from plague was less than in 1900-1901, but there was an epidemic of small-pox, while diarrhœa and dysentery were slightly above the normal. The work of disinfecting plague-infected rooms was carried on without opposition and with good results. The demolition of huts, which had been proved to be centres of the disease, was also successfully undertaken, compensation being paid to the owners. The registration of births is still unsatisfactory, being only 10·7 per thousand, while as to the birth-rate, a comparison of the Calcutta figures with those of other towns and the statistics of infant vaccination lead to the conclusion that the true birth-rate must be at least double the reported figure. The low registered birth-rate must account to a great extent for what is apparently a very high death-rate among infants, amounting to 330 per thousand; but if the death-rate is true, it is satisfactory to notice that it has fallen considerably, inasmuch as during the ten previous years the average exceeded 400 per thousand. The policy of bustee improvement was pushed on with vigour, and work is either going on, or in contemplation, in more than 100 bustees. The progress of the work is, however, almost unavoidably slow; and the Corporation have not solved the difficult question of housing those who are compelled to quit the condemned bustees. They have been asked to seriously take in hand the necessary improvement of the suburban area, where it may be possible to lay out the unoccupied spaces so as to house the poorer classes and to provide good roads and easy communications. The general introduction of electric traction on the tramways should make the solution of this problem easier, since it will make the suburbs more easily accessible. Something was done in this direction by the erection of a model dwelling-house in Bhawanipur, but such houses are more suited to supply the wants of the artizan classes. Improvements have been, and others will be, introduced in the Vaccination Department. The work of the year showed a great improvement in regard to infant vaccination over that previously recorded. In connection with the health of the town, it is satisfactory to note that six new squares are being opened out, and that steps have been taken to remove the cemeteries from within the town limits. Vital Statistics and health of the town.

498. Although good progress has been made during the year in strengthening the organization for the improvement of Calcutta, the actual expenditure on the main schemes was, as already noted, comparatively small, and the demands in the near future will be very great. It is therefore satisfactory to find that the finances of the Corporation are in a sound condi tion. The valuation of the town has increased by about 50 lakhs of rupees in the last ten years, and, since the introduction of the new Municipal Act, the increase has been over 14 lakhs. During the last year four wards were re-assessed, and the total increase of valuation of the year was over 9½ lakhs. The income from the general rates increased by Rs. 2,15,000, owing to new assessments and better collections. It appears that there is some dissatisfaction with the valuation of residential houses in the north of Calcutta. This question was settled in 1888, when the Act of that year provided that such houses should be valued, not on the rent which they might be expected to pay, but on the cost of construction. The former system had been previously in force, but owing to the prejudice which exists among Hindus against living in hired houses, it was found that under it residential houses were valued at from 30 to 50 per cent. below their real value. In order to remedy what was then stigmatized as a scandal, the system was altered to a valuation on the cost of construction. Protests were made at the time from influential quarters, but after full inquiry, the principle was maintained by Government, and it was again re-affirmed when the law was amended in 1899. When the first revaluations were made under the amended Act of 1888, it was impossible to give full effect to the change of system; and the revisions of assessment were not strictly made. It is therefore not a matter of surprise that the revision now being made should add considerably to the valuation. This method of assessment, however, possesses the elements of certainty. The houses are measured, and the cost of construction can be accurately ascertained. If mistakes are made, they can be easily corrected, if necessary, by a judicial decision as to the measurements or the rates of construction. The results are checked by the prices which are ascertained to have been realised in Finance.

sales, or to have been calculated for purposes of partition. It is reported that a considerable portion of the increase in the valuation is due to the rise in the value of land which is included for the purposes of assessment.

499. In the course of an arbitration, conducted by the Chief Engineer to Government, on certain matters in dispute between the Corporation of Calcutta and their contractors, his attention was drawn to several marked defects in the working of the Municipal system with regard to the construction of large works, the payment for them and the audit of the accounts. The question of the reorganisation of the Accounts Branch of the Corporation was at the time under the consideration of the Corporation, who had engaged the services of an officer of the Financial Department of the Government of India for the purpose. The services of an experienced Public Works Accounts officer were also placed at the disposal of the Corporation for framing a clear and distinct set of rules, so as to ensure the speedy audit and check of bills connected with works and their prompt payment, and to define the respective functions of the Head of the Accounts Department and of the Municipal Engineer in respect of the checking and payment of bills.

500. The outstanding loans at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 3,21,92,158, but with their present valuation the Corporation are in a position to borrow a further crore of rupees, and with the growth of the revenue of the town their capacity to borrow will increase yearly. During the past year 21 lakhs were raised at favourable rates, and the year closed with a considerable cash balance. Government was unable to accept a proposal made during the year to borrow 30 lakhs at 4 per cent. to pay off the balance of the present debt to the Imperial Government, which is being paid off by half-yearly instalments of principal and interest. The whole debt will be cleared off in 1909, and as the Corporation is now well able to meet its liabilities, it appeared better to allow this debt to be paid off in the next few years rather than to incur a liability for a further period, when fresh and heavier demands are likely to be made on the resources of the Municipality. The income was Rs. 1,14,000 better, while the expenditure was Rs. 6,18,000 less, than the estimate. The shortage of expenditure is considerable. It is not clearly shown why all the funds provided for works during the year were not expended, but the result was apparently due to the stoppage of work on the Suburban Drainage Scheme pending the reference to Mr. Latham. The main expenditure on this account, viz., Rs. 6,73,834, was for works executed before the year under report. The hope was expressed last year that the scheme for disposing of the suburban sewage and surface drainage, and for providing a continuous water-supply, would be pressed on to completion as rapidly as possible. The execution of such important works no doubt requires the fullest consideration, but it is to be regretted that more has not been done during the year under report. Similarly, the difficulties with which the Corporation have to contend are very great, but it is by their success in overcoming these difficulties, and in bringing to a completion the various projects for the improvement of the town and suburbs, that the efficiency of the Corporation and the value of the new constitution will be judged.

Puri Lodging-House Act.

[The Reports from the Commissioners on the working of the Puri Lodging-house Act in the various places where it has been extended.]

Working of the Act.

501. During the year under review the Puri Lodging-house Act (Bengal Act IV of 1871, as amended by Bengal Acts II of 1879 and I of 1884) was extended to the village of Jessidih Bazar, in the Deoghur subdivision of the district of the Sonthal Parganas. The Act worked satisfactorily in all places in which it was in force.

Licensed Lodging-houses.

502. The total number of lodging-houses was 1,912, providing accommodation for 68,500 lodgers, against 1,997 houses accommodating 71,642 persons in the preceding year. In Gaya and Nadia (Nabadwipa) there was a rise both in the number of lodgers and lodging-houses, while elsewhere there was a steady decline. The decrease at Sitakund is ascribable partly to scarcity in the neighbouring districts, which chiefly send pilgrims to this shrine, and partly to the

lateness of the season of Sivaratri *mêla*. The falling-off in the Burdwan and Orissa Divisions was principally due to the opening of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. Since the opening of the line the pilgrim traffic is gradually concentrating on one main centre, and in a short time few lodging-houses will be left outside the town of Puri.

Public Health and Water-supply.

503. The health of the places where the Act was in force is reported to have been generally good. The number of deaths among pilgrims fell from 730 in the preceding year to 510, being 27 per cent. less than the proportionate decrease in the number of pilgrims. Plague was wholly absent from Gaya, but appeared in Deoghur without, however, causing any serious mortality. There was no complaint in the past year in regard to the water-supply. The proposal of the Magistrate of Chittagong to bring down the water of the Mandakini spring by means of pipes to the Sitakund bazar, was carried out with the help of a liberal donation of Rs. 5,000 given for the purpose by Raja Srinath Roy of Bhagyakul, in the Dacca district, and his brothers. At Garhbeta, in the district of Midnapore, the sinking of a well, which was sanctioned in 1899-1900, was completed last year, while two new wells were sunk at Puri.

Income and Expenditure.

504. The total income of the year under review was Rs. 63,106—a slight increase on that of 1900-1901. The total expenditure was Rs. 57,415, against Rs. 43,186 in 1900-1901. The services of the Health Officer attached to the *chatties* in the Balasore district were dispensed with from 31st March 1902, his work being made over to the officers in charge of the several local dispensaries.

District Boards.

[Divisional Commissioner's Reports on the working of District Boards in Bengal for 1901-1902; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XVIII.]

Number and constitution of District and Local Boards.

505. The number of District Boards and Union Committees remained unchanged during the year, but the number of Local Boards increased from 105 to 106 owing to the formation of a Local Board in the Alipur subdivision of the district of Jalpaiguri. On the 31st March last the 42 District Boards contained in all 845 members, against 844 in 1901-1902. They held altogether 640 meetings, or 30 more than in the previous year. The number of meetings that had to be adjourned and of those that proved abortive for want of a quorum was 47 against 51 in 1900-1901.

The 106 Local Boards had a total strength of 1,268 members, or 6 more than in the previous year. The number of meetings held was 1,205, or 24 more than in 1900-1901, of which 203, as compared with 198 in the previous year, had to be adjourned or proved abortive owing to failure to form a quorum.

Elections.

506. General elections of members were held in the districts of Burdwan, Birbhum, Bankura, Hooghly, 24-Parganas, Nadia, Rajshahi, Pabna, and Dacca. In some districts, and notably in Burdwan, the elections evoked but little interest; in some places the elections failed owing to the non-attendance of the requisite number of voters, and in others to the fact that nominations were not received in time.

Powers of Local Boards.

507. The only changes in respect of the powers delegated to Local Boards were the withdrawal of the management of ferries from the Boalia Local Board and of the charge of dispensaries from the Local Boards in Bhagalpur. In Purnea the maintenance of some of the district and village roads was made over to the Sadar Local Board, while the Subdivisional Boards were entrusted with the management of pounds in addition to the maintenance of roads. Some of the Local Boards in the Rajshahi Division worked unsatisfactorily, and it is doubtful whether they should be retained. The Commissioner has been requested to consider the subject.

Union Committees.

508. There was no change in the number of Union Committees or of their members, but the number of meetings held by them increased from 255 to 263. The total income declined from Rs. 19,891 to Rs. 19,205, and the expenditure from Rs. 18,247 to Rs. 18,203. The Union Committees of Pandua, Haripal, and Bali in the district of Hooghly, and all the Union Committees in the districts of Khulna and Noakhali are reported to have done good work during the year. Elsewhere, however, they had either no opportunity or no desire to make themselves useful. The object of Union Committees is to stimulate local interest in

the improvement of areas where population is fairly dense, and one intention of the Act was to enable the residents of such areas to supplement the funds received from the District Boards by local taxation for the improvement of drainage and the supply of drinking-water. These objects have not been realized, and Government does not propose to extend the system of Union Committees except to localities where the residents show signs of a desire to help themselves.

Financial results.

509. The year opened with a gross credit balance of Rs. 21,69,657, and the total receipts of the 42 District Boards from all sources amounted during the year to Rs. 80,65,037. The total amount available for expenditure was therefore Rs. 1,02,34,694, of which Rs. 83,11,738 were spent. The year closed with a credit balance of Rs. 19,22,956.

Under receipts the largest items were Provincial rates (Rs. 42,19,181), Civil works including ferries (Rs. 12,23,333), and Deposits and advances (Rs. 11,68,132). Under expenditure the largest items were Civil works (Rs. 46,85,791), Education (Rs. 13,31,926), Debt (Rs. 11,05,666), and Medical (Rs. 4,41,939).

INCOME.

510. The amount shown under Provincial rates represents the proceeds of the road cess, less the cost of collection and revaluation. Compared with the figures for the previous year, the income derived from this source shows a slight decrease, which occurred in all the Divisions with the exception of the Presidency, Dacca, and Chittagong Divisions, and which was mainly due to the increase of establishment and other collection charges. The decrease was largest in Saran, where it is explained to be due to a reduction in the amount of arrears recoverable and to greater difficulty experienced in collecting them. The number of pounds under the management of District Boards increased from 4,252 to 4,330, and the income from them from Rs. 4,73,430 to Rs. 4,81,306. The collections on the whole improved, and the balances were less than 8½ per cent. of the demands. They were worst in Orissa, where the arrears were nearly 25 per cent. of the demand—a result attributed to the mismanagement of the Local Boards. The necessity for a continual inspection of pounds remains, and in several cases pound-keepers were punished for failure to supply food and water to the animals under their charge.

511. The receipts under Education (Rs. 81,152) increased by Rs. 14,678. An increase of income under the head medical by Rs. 15,089 is chiefly attributed to larger realisation of subscriptions and contributions—a result especially welcome as evincing an increased interest on the part of the public in medical charity, which is now more directly under their own management. The receipts under the head, Civil works (Rs. 12,23,333) which are derived mainly from "Tolls on ferries" and "Contributions," declined by Rs. 65,108. The falling off is noticeable under both heads. The income from ferries will necessarily decrease as railways are extended, and this cause accounts for the reduction in many districts. The receipts from contributions, principally from Government, vary from year to year according to the provincial works entrusted to District Boards for execution. In the year under review they fell short of the amount received during the previous year by Rs. 45,295. The annual contributions made by Government to equalise the assets and charges of the several District Boards were less than the amount contributed in 1900-1901 by Rs. 59,299. The sums deposited as security for the payment of revenue by ferry farmers, contractors and others, and the recoveries and adjustments on account of advances made from District Funds increased by Rs. 7,81,122. The increase, though large, was due to casual variations.

EXPENDITURE.

512. The expenditure under Administration (Rs. 2,94,244) increased by Rs. 13,985. The increase is chiefly attributed to grants of annual increments to employés and heavier expenditure on account of travelling allowances and office contingencies.

Education.

513. There was a net increase of Rs. 40,679 in the expenditure of District Boards under Education, which was shared by all classes of schools. There was a decrease in direct expenditure on primary schools which was more than

compensated by the increase in grants-in-aid. It is intended to largely add to the grants from public revenues for the extension of primary education. The number of Sub-Inspectors employed by District Boards during the year remained the same, but the number of Inspecting Pandits decreased from 438 to 413. Of schools maintained by District Boards, the number of high schools remained unchanged, but there was a decrease of 6 in the number of middle schools. The number of upper primary and lower primary schools and industrial schools also remained unaltered. Of schools aided by District Boards, the number of high schools, middle schools, and industrial schools decreased by 7, 10, and 2, respectively, but the number of upper and lower primary and other schools increased by 125, 447, and 19, respectively. The total number of girls undergoing tuition in the schools aided by District Boards were 4,193 in upper primary and 48,838 in lower primary schools.

The chief changes to note under Special Schools are that the Kashi Kishor Technical School at Mymensingh was reopened during the year in a remodelled form, and the Barisal Technical School was amalgamated with the local zilla school. Several District Boards granted scholarships for Technical and Veterinary education.

In circular No. 17T.—G., dated the 31st October 1901, the Chairmen of certain District Boards were requested to report the progress made in extending the use of the fly-shuttle loom. It does not appear from the reports received that any real progress has been made in any district except in Noakhali. The encouragement of female education continued to receive attention from the Boards, and, as usual, those bodies provided scholarships for the training of female students in medical schools.

Medical.

514. The expenditure under the head Medical (Rs. 4,41,939) decreased by Rs. 17,483, the decrease occurring chiefly in the Patna Division. The decrease is satisfactory, because the expenditure incurred by the District Boards of Patna and Gaya in the previous year was largely swollen by the adoption of measures to check the progress of plague, and the decrease means that these measures were not necessary to the same extent last year. District Boards continued to afford gratuitous medical relief to localities affected with cholera and malarial fever. The Pasteur Institute at Kasauli continued to receive contributions from District Boards.

There was an increase of 17 in the number of dispensaries maintained by District Boards, and of Rs. 13,942 in the cost incurred in their maintenance; the District Board of Backergunge, as in previous years, maintaining the largest number of dispensaries, viz., 34. The number of dispensaries aided by District Boards increased by six and the contributions to those dispensaries by Rs. 28,923. The District Board of Faridpur aided the largest number of dispensaries, 15 in all.

Sanitation and Veterinary.

515. Rupees 35,728 were spent on sanitation and Rs. 17,243 on Veterinary charges by the District Board during the year. Veterinary dispensaries were opened during the year at Suri and Bogra. A Veterinary hospital was also established at Darbhanga under the auspices of the Municipality, to which the District Board contributed one-sixth of the total maintenance charges. Veterinary Assistants were employed during the year by eleven District Boards, and six Boards provided by means of scholarships for the training of students at the Belgachia College. The Veterinary Dispensary at Champaran had to be closed during the year, as the Board was not able to obtain the services of an efficient substitute in the place of the Veterinary Assistant who had resigned his post.

Civil works.

516. The total expenditure under Civil Works (Rs. 46,85,791) shows an increase of Rs. 1,49,050, which occurred under all the sub-heads, except repairs of buildings and communications, establishment, and contingencies. There was a considerable increase in the expenditure on original works. A decreased expenditure in some districts was due to a change of classification introduced during the year under which the expenditure on Provincial roads and civil buildings, which was hitherto shown under this head, is now debited to "Deposits." The chief works taken in hand by the several District Boards were the construction of an office for the District Board of Dacca at an estimated cost of Rs. 66,408, the metalling of a portion of the road leading from Berhampore to Kandi at an estimated cost of Rs. 51,750,

the construction of the Hazarat-Jandaha-Mahnar road in Muzaffarpur at an estimated cost of Rs. 31,670, the improvement of the Motihari-Maisai road and the Motihari-Tetaria road at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,01,739, and the construction of six pontoon-bridges in Darbhanga at a cost of Rs. 42,625 and of a screw-pile bridge on the Sakri road in the same district at a cost of Rs. 30,102.

It is satisfactory to note that the amount spent on water-supply and water-works advanced from Rs. 1,14,268 to Rs. 1,56,130, the increase being largest in Tippera. The works undertaken under this head were, as usual, the re-excavation of tanks and the construction and repair of wells. The District Boards of Shahabad and Bhagalpur contributed Rs. 4,500 and Rs. 5,000, respectively, towards the maintenance of the water-works of the town. In Chittagong water-pipes were laid from the Sambhunath Temple to Sitakund Bazar at a cost of Rs. 5,000, which was contributed by Raja Sreenath Roy Bahadur and his brothers. The expenditure on water-supply in the Presidency Division was only Rs. 11,862, which compares unfavourably with the Rs. 49,411 spent in the Dacca Division.

Since the close of the year 1900-1901 Commissioners have been appointed to carry out the scheme for the removal of the obstructions to the drainage of the Chalan Bhil and for draining the tract known as the Cheriol Bhil, lying within the districts of Pabna and Rajshahi. For the first named project an Engineer has been appointed by Government for the preparation of the scheme, and for the latter the District Engineer has prepared one which is under the consideration of the Commissioners.

Roads.

517. During the year 8,666 roads, with a total length of 44,472 miles, were maintained by the several District Boards at a total cost of Rs. 32,02,917, as against Rs. 30,01,378 spent in the preceding year. There was an increase of 2,864 miles of roads. Of the total length, 3,170 miles were metalled, 24,406 miles unmetalled, and village roads accounted for 16,895 miles against 3,425, 22,570, and 15,611 miles, respectively, in the year 1900-1901. Of the total cost incurred on metalled roads, Rs. 2,15,187 were expended on original works and Rs. 7,79,624 on repairs, and of that incurred on unmetalled roads Rs. 9,14,952 were spent on original works, and Rs. 9,39,241 on repairs. The expenditure on account of metalled roads was highest in Burdwan, Rs. 96,581, Midnapore coming next with Rs. 85,865. The cost per mile of district metalled roads was highest in Howrah (Rs. 1,295), and lowest in Malda (Rs. 42), and that of unmetalled roads was again highest in Howrah (Rs. 438) and lowest in Nadia (Rs. 14). The cost per mile of village roads varied from Rs. 115 in Backergunge to Rs. 6 in Champaran.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

518. With the exception of Chittagong, all the District Boards incurred expenditure in planting and maintaining trees on the sides of roads. Working plans for arboricultural operations for the period of five years, commencing from 1902-1903, have, in accordance with the orders of Government, been prepared in the majority of the districts.

Railway Feeder roads.

519. The construction of new roads as feeders to railways and the maintenance of existing feeder roads continued to receive attention from District Boards. So far as can be gathered from the reports, the total amount spent on this object was Rs. 3,20,119, but the information is not complete. The District Boards of the Patna, Chota Nagpur, and Orissa Divisions were specially active in constructing these classes of roads, while good work was done in Howrah, the 24-Parganas, Monghyr, and Bhagalpur districts. The works in connection with the feeder roads in Rangpur and Bogra, for which Government made contributions of Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 60,000, respectively, were in progress during the year; but the feeder road from Jamalganj railway station to Itakhola in Bogra, and the Goborchapa feeder road in Rajshahi, for which contributions amounting to Rs. 16,000 and Rs. 16,800, respectively, were made from the Provincial Revenues, could not be taken in hand. The due provision of such roads is a subject that is receiving the close attention of Government, and it is gratifying to find that local bodies are not backward in a matter that is one of the greatest importance to the development of the country.

Railways and Tramways.

520. The scheme for the construction of a steam tramway on the existing road from Barasat to Basirhat has now been finally accepted and a revised

provisional agreement entered into between the District Board and Messrs. Martin & Co. the promoters of the Railway. The proposal for the construction of a steam tramway from Memari to Chakdigi has been abandoned. The extension of the Howrah-Amta Light Railway from Jagatballabpur to Champadanga with a branch from Autpur to Rajbalhat has recently been sanctioned by Government. A project for a tramway between Dacca and Sealo, opposite Goalundo, is under consideration. Some progress is reported to have been made in the construction of a light railway between Bukhtiarpur and Bihar, and the negotiations for the construction of tramways in Saran have reached a further stage. In Purnea it is proposed to start a steam tramway between the civil station and the city. The question of the extension of Light Railways with the assistance of private enterprise is under the consideration of Government. The experience at present gained of such schemes has not been entirely satisfactory, and the lines which have been laid, though very useful to the public, have not succeeded, except in one or two cases, in earning at once the large profits which appear to be necessary to attract private capital. The delays in sanctioning such schemes, caused by the necessity of reconciling the conflicting interests of the promoters, local bodies, and neighbouring railways, have also been obstacles to their extension.

Contributions.

521. The contributions made by District Boards towards the cost of the Police force employed at plague camps, refund of the unexpended balance of Government grants for special works, payments on account of cost of establishments in the offices of account and control, and contributions made by District Boards to Union Committees in all Rs. 2,24,853, increased by Rs. 1,02,805. The fluctuations are due to ordinary causes of no special importance.

Closing balances.

522. The actual credit balance of the year, Rs. 16,90,703, was less than that of the previous year by Rs. 3,09,046. This is satisfactory, as the closing balances are swollen by the unspent portions of the special grant of five lakhs from Government, and there must, therefore, have been a greater expenditure of the regular income of the Boards than in the preceding year. In several districts, however, it is reported that the full programme of works could not be carried out owing to failure of contractors and other causes.

Amendment of the Bengal L. S.-G. Act.

523. A Bill has been prepared to remove defects and omissions in the Local Self Government Act, and is now ready for submission to the Government of India.

General.

524. In 1900-1901 a grant of Rs. 5,00,000 was made from Provincial Revenues for the improvement of communications in the several Divisions of Bengal. The reports from the Commissioners of Divisions show that the allotments were satisfactorily made, and the money distributed with due consideration for the relative needs of each district. About one-third of the amount was allotted for feeder roads, about the same amount for bridges, about one-fifth for extensions of communications, and the balance for metalling existing roads. It was found possible to renew the grants during the current year, and a second assignment of five lakhs of rupees has been made from Provincial Revenues.

The question of providing for a more efficient professional control over the civil works undertaken by District Boards, was decided by the revision of the rules under clauses (*g*), (*l*) and (*m*) of section 138 of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act, so as to admit of an increase of the control exercised by the Inspector of Works, the enhancement of the Inspector's influence with the Boards, the maintenance of a standard of qualification for the post of District Engineer, and the establishment of a closer audit of accounts.

The District Boards continue to administer the large funds entrusted to them with care and efficiency, and the work of the year shows considerable progress in all Departments. The income increased by about seven lakhs and the expenditure by nearly ten lakhs of rupees. It is satisfactory to find that all Commissioners agree that the members of the District Boards have continued to show interest in their work, and to co-operate loyally with the executive in promoting efficiency. The only dissentient note comes from Orissa, where the Commissioner bewails the growing decrease of public interest in District Boards, as evidenced by the apathy shown in seeking for membership, and by the falling off in the attendance of members. It is possible that this result in Orissa is due to the inelasticity of the revenue, but a revision of the cess valuation is now in progress in this Division, and, with an increase in the revenue and greater

opportunities for action, it is hoped that the interest of the District Boards will revive, and that they will prove equal to the work of providing for an advancing population and a general increase of wealth in the districts. The reports as to Local Boards are less favourable except in the Patna Division. It is to be regretted that the problem of devolution of duties to these local bodies has not been satisfactorily solved. That Local Boards can be useful is shown by the example of those in the Patna Division and of the Sadar Local Board of the 24-Parganas, but it is possible that, considering the small funds available they can only be worked satisfactorily where active Chairmen or Vice-Chairmen are available.

Volunteering.

525. The following volunteer corps were in existence during the year:—Calcutta Port Defence Corps, Bihar Light Horse, Northern Bengal Mounted Rifles, Calcutta Light Horse, Cossipore Artillery Volunteers, Calcutta Volunteer Rifles, Eastern Bengal State Railway Volunteers, St. Michael School Cadet Corps, Eastern Bengal Volunteer Rifles, Assam-Bengal Railway Volunteers and Chota Nagpur Mounted Rifles. As the maintenance of the Bengal Central Horse as a separate unit had been found unsatisfactory, it was attached during the year to the Calcutta Light Horse. The total number of volunteers in Bengal, exclusive of officers, is 4,884.

During the year ths head-quarters of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Volunteer Corps, was, on the application of the Officer Commanding the Corps, transferred from Nagpur to Kharagpur, and the Corps placed under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Marine.

[The information contained in the Chapter below has been obtained partly from the correspondence with the officers and public bodies with whom the Marine Department is concerned, and partly from certain reports which are annually submitted to that Department. The reports consulted are as follows:—

Annual Report of the Port Officer, Calcutta, for the year 1901-1902.
Report on the working of the Shipping Office at Calcutta and at the ports of Orissa and Chittagong for the year 1901-1902.
Annual Report of the Health Officer of the Port of Calcutta for 1901.
Administration Report of the Port Commissioners, Calcutta, for the year 1901-1902.
Administration Report of the Howrah Bridge for the year 1901-1902.
Administration Report of the Port Commissioners, Chittagong, for the year 1901-1902.
Administration Report of the Orissa Ports for the year 1901-1902.
Report on the working of the Native Passenger Ships Act, 1887, in Bengal for the year 1901-1902.]

GENERAL.

Docking Certificates.

526. The Managing Agents, British India Steam Navigation Company, brought to the notice of this Government that the Board of Trade had refused to recognise the docking certificates granted by the Engineer and Ship-wright Surveyor at Calcutta. The Government of India were, thereupon, addressed and asked to move the Board of Trade to accept such certificates, provided they were endorsed by the Local Government: but that body has, in reply, refused to accept the suggestions.

Rules for the prevention of the introduction of Plague by Sea.

527. At the instance of the Medical Department of this Government certain rules in respect of arrivals by sea at all ports in Bengal for the medical inspection, isolation, observation and surveillance of persons suffering from, or suspected of being infected with, plague, were issued on the 18th March 1901. Later on in the year subsidiary rules were framed for each port in Bengal and published on the 8th July 1901, the only important change being that at Balasore and its subsidiary ports, an "infected ship" is to be treated as a "suspected ship."

Rules for the importation, transport and possession of Carbide of Calcium.

528. Draft rules for the importation, transport and possession of carbide of calcium were published for criticism on the 19th March 1901. These rules were criticised by several of the firms who deal in this commodity and by the Commissioner of Police, and, after consideration of the criticisms, the Government of India were furnished with a copy of the opinions with a suggestion that the rules might be relaxed in some directions, as they appeared to be unnecessarily stringent and would, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, almost certainly result in the partial abandonment of what promises to be a large and remunerative business.

The Government of India, on further consideration, agreed to relax certain provisions of the draft rules. These rules, as modified, were again published for criticism and, after consideration of the further suggestions made, were finally submitted to the Government of India for sanction.

Carriage of kerosine-oil in native Passenger Ships.

529. Before passing orders on the question of the conditions on which kerosine-oil should be permitted to be carried on native passenger ships, the Government of India asked for a further opinion as to the methods of packing kerosine-oil which should be recorded as suitable for the purpose of transport. After consulting those interested in the trade the Government of India were furnished with a copy of the replies received, from which it was evident that the use of hermetically sealed iron or steel drums would be very expensive. The Lieutenant-Governor therefore recommended that this mode of packing should not be insisted on, but that the alternative practice of using tins protected by wooden cases, which has worked satisfactorily in the past, should be allowed to continue.

As regards the question of loading and unloading, the Lieutenant-Governor concurred in the view already expressed that no kerosine-oil or petroleum should be taken on board any native passenger ship, or discharged therefrom, except between the hours of sunrise and sunset. But it was added that this restriction should not apply to ships fitted with electric lights.

THE PORT OF CALCUTTA.

Pilot Service.

530. The year opened with 46 Pilots on the list; at the end of the year the number stood at 49, or 3 short of the sanctioned number of 52. There were no casualties in the service during the year. The number of vessels arriving at and leaving the port was 1,347 and 1,356 respectively, which shows a small decrease on the number of the previous year. The previous year's figures were exceptional, owing to the large number of transports for South Africa and China. The numbers given above represent a gross tonnage of 4,575,267 inwards and 4,618,217 outwards. The average tonnage of steamers and sailing ships, inwards and outwards, was 3,401 against 3,247 during the previous year. The pilotage receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 11,30,390 against Rs. 11,60,603 during the previous year, or a decrease of a little over $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. This is due to the smaller number of vessels that visited the port. Of the total number of vessels which visited the port, only 29 were sailing vessels.

531. There were only two collisions during the year, while the number of groundings was 24. In both cases of collisions the Pilots were to blame, while in the cases of groundings, in three instances only were the Pilots to blame.

On the 23rd November 1900 while the steamers *Telena* and *Croydon* were at the jetties at the Docks, a fire broke out enveloping both vessels, causing loss of life and material damage to both vessels and coaling jetties. A Court of Enquiry which was appointed by this Government, under Act V of 1883, to enquire into the matter came to the conclusion that the accident was due to a piece of burning waste setting fire to the oil on the surface of the water, and that the Chief Engineer of the S. S. *Telena*, while imagining that he was pumping the drainage oil into the cofferdam was, in reality, pumping it into the dock.

The Port Rules now in force do not contain adequate provision for preventing such accidents, and the subject is being considered with a view to remedy this defect.

Surveys.

532. The gross receipts from surveys amounted to Rs. 40,877, while the expenditure, including the travelling allowances of surveyors to out-stations, was Rs. 25,912.

CALCUTTA SHIPPING OFFICE.

Financial.

533. The receipts of the Shipping Office were Rs. 69,066, showing an increase of Rs. 1,692 over the previous year. The chief cause of the increase is the sale of discharge certificates, from which Rs. 4,760 were

realized. There were larger shipments under Indian articles, and no seamen were shipped without certificates.

In order to cope with the increase of work in the Native Department, and to afford a needed improvement, it has been proposed to open a branch Shipping Office in the vicinity of the Kidderpore Docks, and the matter is now under consideration. It will materially lessen the distance to be travelled by masters and men, and will be a convenience to all concerned.

The disbursements of the office show a decrease of Rs. 965. There is a large decrease of Rs. 2,456 under overtime fees due to the orders of Government, under which the entire amount of fees earned during the year was brought into account, and the officer doing the work was paid a fixed allowance instead of a portion of the fees as heretofore.

Seamen shipped and discharged.

534. The number of seamen shipped and discharged were—

Shipped	...	...	...	37,382
Discharged	...	...	...	31,451

Of those shipped under European articles there is a decrease of 398; while under Indian articles, notwithstanding the unusually large numbers shipped during the previous year as crews on vessels chartered for Government transport, the figures of the year under review again show a small advance. It has been decided by the Government of India that the law as it stands does not preclude the employment of Eurasians in merchant vessels on the same terms as Europeans, and since then 37 Eurasians have been shipped under European articles and 97 under Indian articles, or a total of 134, against 72 under Indian articles only during the previous year. A few are able-bodied seamen, but the greater number are Engineers and clerks, with a few gunners, mess-room stewards and ordinary seamen. In addition to the above 43 seamen were shipped and 59 discharged by Foreign Consuls.

Condition of seamen.

535. In regard to the condition of seamen, there is nothing special to note. The numbers of shipped and discharged Europeans are steadily decreasing; and judging from the complaints of Masters, and bearing in mind their relative cost, the Shipping Master is of opinion that lascars will gradually but surely displace European crews.

HEALTH OF THE PORT.

Inspection of vessels.

536. The total number of inward-bound and outward-bound vessels inspected during the year was 1,555 against 2,852 in 1900. One hundred and five vessels arriving from foreign ports were inspected during the year.

Arrivals.

537. The numbers of European and Asiatic seamen who arrived during the year in inspected vessels were 2,737 Europeans and 9,032 Asiatics, against 10,576 Europeans and 36,559 Asiatics in 1900. Of the seamen in outward-bound vessels, 21,064 were Europeans and 82,339 Asiatics, against 22,862 Europeans and 77,016 Asiatics in the previous year.

Health of Europeans and Natives.

538. During the year the death-rate in hospital amongst European seamen was lower than in the previous year. The admission rate into hospital for all diseases was 589 per mille. The death-rate was 16·51 per mille. The quinquennial mean death-rate was 27·70.

The total number of deaths of natives reported during the year was 137, of whom 33 died in hospital and 104 out of hospital; of these deaths 63 were from cholera, 5 from bowel-complaints, 33 from fever, and 3 from small-pox.

Lascar crew.

539. Sixty-one thousand six hundred and twenty-seven lascars arrived in the port, against 74,159 in 1900. Eighty-two thousand three hundred and thirty-nine lascars left the port, against 76,395 in 1900.

Pilgrim traffic.

540. No pilgrim vessels sailed from Calcutta. The S. S. *Akbar* left Jeddah on the 12th April with 450 pilgrims and arrived at Diamond Harbour on the 7th May with 434 pilgrims (416 males, 16 women and 2 boys). Three were sent to the hospital at Diamond Harbour; one of these was removed by his friends, the others died in hospital. Four hundred and thirty-one pilgrims

were, after disinfection of their clothing by steam, despatched by rail under police escort to their destination. There were 16 deaths during the voyage.

The S. S. *Mahammadi* left Jeddah on the 14th April with 422 pilgrims and arrived at Diamond Harbour on the 10th May with 402 pilgrims (377 males, 24 women and 1 infant). Four hundred and two pilgrims were, after disinfection of their clothing by steam, despatched to their destination by rail under police escort. There were 20 deaths during the voyage.

Plague.

541. One hundred and eight vessels were boarded on arrival during the year from the plague-infected ports of Bombay, Karachi, Hong-kong, Penang, Mauritius and the Hedjaz. No case of plague was found on any of these vessels. Of these, four were "suspected ships" and were quarantined at Matiabrooj until they had been disinfected in accordance with the Plague Regulations. No "infected ship" arrived in the port during the year. No case of plague was detected among the crews or passengers of out-going vessels; but as there is no means of tracing what becomes of rejected persons, it is possible that some of them may have been cases of plague.

CALCUTTA PORT TRUST.

Revenue receipts and expenditure.

542. The revenue earned in the year 1901-1902 amounted to Rs. 76,74,782, exclusive of outstanding bills. This closely approximates to the budget estimate for the year of Rs. 77,07,719. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 73,95,123, so that the net result was a surplus of Rs. 2,79,659. Adding to this the balances of previous years, the total revenue balance stands at Rs. 12,11,082, exclusive of outstanding bills. The Commissioners have rightly decided that a sufficient balance shall be reserved against any temporary depreciation of revenue from transient causes, and they have accordingly established a revenue reserve fund made up of the accumulated balances of previous years.

Capital expenditure during the year.

543. A sum of Rs. 14,85,497 was expended on various works, chargeable to capital, of which Rs. 6,80,185 were obtained from the balance of loans raised in 1900, and miscellaneous receipts on capital account, and the difference of Rs. 8,05,312 was financed by temporary advances made from the revenue cash balance in order to postpone the issue of a loan and thereby save interest. On the other hand, a sum of Rs. 2,20,955 has been paid to the Government, so that the total capital debt of the Trust was reduced from Rs. 4,74,63,127, at which it stood on the 31st of March 1901, to Rs. 4,72,42,172.

Value of assets.

544. Against this debt, the Commissioners hold properties, including works in progress, stock of stores, cash, and securities in hand of the value of Rs. 6,09,57,162. This does not include the Strand bank lands, the capitalized value of which, at present rates of rent, would represent a considerable sum of money. The position of the Commissioners in respect of their debts may, therefore, be considered to be satisfactory. At the same time, Sinking Funds, amounting to Rs. 34,20,593, have been accumulated by annual contributions from revenue for the extinction of debts, and may be added to the value of assets.

Jetties.

545. The receipts at the "Jetties" amounted to Rs. 14,03,807, against Rs. 12,63,640 in 1900-1901, showing an increase of Rs. 1,40,167, the improvement being due to an increase in the Foreign Import trade. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,94,966, as compared with Rs. 5,01,175 of the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 6,209. This decrease is noteworthy, inasmuch as the revenue has increased.

Port and Port Approaches.

546. The receipts under the head "Port and Port Approaches" amounted to Rs. 11,73,553. There was an increase of Rs. 12,983 over the income of the previous year. There was also an increase of expenditure of Rs. 20,735, of which Rs. 14,352 were outstanding, so that there was a net improvement of Rs. 6,600. There is still a considerable deficit on the working of these two branches. This deficit is, however, steadily diminishing year by year, the improvement being due to the increased number of vessels visiting the port.

Railway.

547. The revenue derived from the Commissioners' railway was Rs. 5,32,515 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,35,923, leaving a balance of Rs. 96,593, against Rs. 1,37,184 in the preceding year.

Kidderpore Docks.

548. The receipts from the Docks were Rs. 24,14,147, against Rs. 23,77,451 in 1900-1901, while the expenditure, exclusive of interest and sinking fund charges, amounted to Rs. 22,14,895, against Rs. 21,03,031 in 1900-1901.

The details of the receipts and charges are given below:—

Receipts.	Rs.	Expenditure.	Rs.
Graving Dock ...	2,56,347	Salaries ...	4,71,491
Rent and miscellaneous ...	3,15,778	Working expenses ...	14,99,028
Imports ...	82,627	Repairs ...	93,400
Exports ...	17,56,745	Municipal taxes ...	1,50,476
Hopper barges ...	2,650		
Total ...	24,14,147	Total ...	22,14,895

After deducting the receipts on account of the Graving Dock, the income of the Wet Docks amounted to Rs. 21,57,800, while the expenditure, after deducting Rs. 58,308 directly chargeable to the Graving Docks, amounted to Rs. 21,56,587. There was thus a small surplus of Rs. 1,213. The net results are, however, actually more favourable, inasmuch as the revenue of the Docks last year was augmented by a credit of Rs. 94,120 on account of hire of wagons, and the expenditure of the current year includes a sum of Rs. 95,412 on account of demands payable and stores issued which should have been charged against the budget of the previous year. Making due allowance for these items, the working of the Docks shows an improvement.

Second Dry Dock.

549. The second Dry Dock is approaching completion. It will permit of vessels being docked for heavy repairs—an arrangement which has not hitherto been possible

Special Tolls.

550. A sum of Rs. 9,97,201 was realized from special tolls, levied under section 108 of the Calcutta Port Act of 1890, against Rs. 9,15,748 collected during the previous years.

Wireless Telegraphy.

551. The proposal to connect Saugor and the Eastern Channel Light Ships by means of wireless telegraphy awaits the result of the experiments and enquiries now being conducted by the Government of India, Telegraph Department.

HOWRAH BRIDGE.

552. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 1,97,031, showing an increase of Rs. 32,355 as compared with those of the previous year. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,94,076, showing an excess of Rs. 27,669 over that of the preceding year. The Bridge was opened for the passage of vessels on 155 occasions, of which 103 were on the ordinary fixed days of the week, while 52 were on Sundays on special application. No sea-going vessel collided with the Bridge.

THE PORT OF CHITTAGONG.

Port Fund.

553. The Chittagong Port Fund opened with a credit balance of Rs. 16,149, and the receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 1,27,715. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 1,26,657, leaving a balance at the credit of the fund of Rs. 17,207. The receipts show an increase of Rs. 63,296-8-3.

Proposal to impose a river-due on all exports and imports at Chittagong.

554. Owing to the difficulty experienced in working the Port satisfactorily on its present income, the Port Commissioners of Chittagong appointed a sub-committee to consider the question of improving the financial position of the Port Fund. The Committee were of opinion that the affairs of the Port could not be managed without additional revenue and, after due deliberation and consideration of all interests concerned, they recommended the imposition of a river-due of 2 annas per ton on all goods imported or exported at the Port of Chittagong by sea-going vessels of every description, with the exception of tea. The income from this due was estimated at Rs. 13,000 per annum. This proposal was accepted by the Government, and the Imperial Government were accordingly addressed

and sanction asked to amend the Chittagong Port Act so as to enable a river-due to be levied. In addition to the section referred to above, sanction was asked to rectify certain omissions in the Act regarding the grant of leave to the Vice-Chairman, and the grant of pensions.

Port appliances and Jetties.

555. The appliances of the port and the lighthouses are reported to have been kept in good order during the year. The Jetty constructed by the Assam-Bengal Railway at the cost of Government was completed and brought into use about the middle of 1899. It continued to be worked by the Assam-Bengal Railway Company under their agreement with the Port Trust. It was regularly used; but to make it more useful it was found necessary to extend it by 45 feet, to provide additional crane-power and an installation of electric lights. Two additional sheds had also to be provided. The estimates for these have been sanctioned by the Government of India, and the work was in hand at the close of the year. It has also been admitted that a second jetty is required, and an estimate for this has also been sanctioned.

The earnings of the Jetty rose from Rs. 3,545 in 1900-1901 to Rs. 47,649-1-4 during the year under review. There was, however, a corresponding increase in expenditure of Rs. 33,848-15-6. The net profit was Rs. 9,562-4-7.

Pilotage Fund and Pilot Service.

556. The receipts of the Pilotage Fund amounted to Rs. 20,736, against Rs. 14,421 of the previous year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 11,515, against Rs. 11,435 of the previous year. The year opened with a credit balance of Rs. 43,643, and ended with a closing balance of Rs. 52,864. The Pilot Service worked satisfactorily. There was only one accident during the year.

Shipping Office.

557. The number of seamen shipped and discharged were 161 and 539, respectively. The receipts of the office amounted to Rs. 1,314, showing an increase of Rs. 1,236 over those of the previous year. The receipts from Trust Funds amounted to Rs. 37,340, against Rs. 1,284 for the previous year.

Bulk-oil installation at Chittagong.

558. In June 1901 the Vice-Chairman of the Commissioners of the Port of Chittagong submitted a proposal from Messrs. Bulloch Brothers for the establishment of a bulk-oil depôt at Chittagong. Several sites were examined and, finally, a site a little below the anchorage at Gooptakhally has been selected. The details of the scheme are still under consideration.

Survey of the Chittagong River.

559. In connection with the general question of improving the Port of Chittagong, the Agent and Chief Engineer, Assam-Bengal Railway, addressed the Lieutenant-Governor pointing out that there had been no authoritative survey of the river since 1883, and that a new survey would be of great assistance in considering any questions connected with the improvement of the Port. This suggestion was accepted by the Lieutenant-Governor, and arrangements were made with the Government of India for the officers of the Marine Survey of India to make a complete survey of the approaches to the Port of Chittagong. Subsequently, at the request of the Port Commissioners, the survey was extended so as to include the approaches to Cox's Bazar and a portion of the River Megna. The survey of the Chittagong approaches and the River Megna was carried out last cold weather. The survey of Cox's Bazar will be undertaken next winter.

THE PORTS OF ORISSA.

560. Owing to continued deficits in the Cuttack and Balasore Port Funds necessitating contributions from Provincial funds, it was decided to make further reductions in the expenditure. This was effected by appointing one Port Officer for all the amalgamated ports and by various reductions in the Lighthouse staff at Shortt's Island, owing to the substitution of a smaller light for the one previously used there.

Receipts and expenditure.

561. The receipts during the year under review amounted to Rs. 13,364, against Rs. 10,032, the receipts for 1900-1901, showing an increase of Rs. 3,332. This is due to the revival at the Ports of Cuttack and Puri of the

rice trade with Foreign Ports after cessation of the famine in the Central Provinces.

The expenditure amounted to Rs. 15,451, against Rs. 18,727, showing a reduction of Rs. 3,276, due mainly to a revised scale of establishment which has been sanctioned by the Government. The reduction would have been greater but for the expenditure incurred in the purchase of a new light from England for Shortt's Island.

The receipts, with the opening balance, will, after covering the expenditure, leave a surplus of Rs. 8,298; and it is satisfactory to note that no contribution from Government will be required.

Trade.

562. Owing to its diversion to the railway, the trade of the Orissa ports continued to decline. From Rs. 1,20,75,438 in 1899-1900 it declined in value during the year 1900-1901 to Rs. 87,98,466, and to Rs. 82,42,330 during the year under review, although there was an increase of the export trade in Cuttack and Puri, as mentioned above. This decline in the value of the trade had no adverse effect on the revenues of the ports, which are mainly derived from Government dues on vessels, and as 228 vessels, exclusive of native craft, entered the ports, against 193 in the previous year, there was a small increase in the receipts of the ports.

Lighthouse.

563. The erosion of Shortt's Island continued. The new fifth-order light has been exhibited on the Island from the 1st August 1901, and is reported to give a clear and uniform light.

Health of the Port.

564. There were no cases of plague in any of the ports, while only two cases of cholera were landed from the S. S. *Jatra* and taken to the Pilgrim Hospital at Chandbally, where they both proved fatal.

WORKING OF THE NATIVE PASSENGER SHIPS ACT, 1887.

565. The following abstract shows the total number of passengers carried on both long and short voyages during the years 1899-1900, 1900-1901, and 1901-1902:—

Year.	Number of long voyages.	Number of passengers.	Number of short voyages.	Number of passengers.
1899-1900 ...	224	6,805	1,081	189,601
1900-1901 ...	230	8,721	886	178,612
1901-1902 ...	281	13,522	956	181,002

There has been an increase since 1899-1900 in the number of long voyages and passengers carried, while there has been a decrease in the number of short voyages, as well as in the number of passengers carried on them. The working of the Act appears to have been satisfactory during the year under report, and no complaints were made against it.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Agriculture.

[Report of the Agricultural Branch of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture for 1901-1902.]

Scientific Enquiries.

566. Of the agricultural enquiries conducted under the control of the Department of Land Records during the year, the most important were those as to the effect of the imposition of the countervailing duties on the prospects of the sugar-refining industry, and as to the alleged deterioration of jute. Under the last-named head experiments are being conducted with selected jute seed at the Burdwan and Chittagong Farms, on lines suggested by the Reporter on Economic Products. On both subjects special reports are awaited.

Research work with the object of improving the indigo plant and increasing the yield of the dye was continued during the year—the agricultural research work being conducted at Dalsingsarai in the district of Darbhanga, and the experiments in manufacture at Piprah in the district of Champaran. On visits paid to the experimental stations the Lieutenant-Governor was satisfied that the money placed at the disposal of the experts had been well and economically used.

Experimental Farms.

567. Experiments with manures were continued at the Burdwan and Dumraon Farms, and it is claimed that the experiments conducted at Burdwan show that a high rate of profit is to be got by applying carefully selected manures to rice, sugarcane and potatoes, and especially by green manuring. The Burdwan Farm and the Sripur Farm, in the Hathwa Estate, were well managed, but the Dumraon Farm not so well during the year. The Inspector-General of Agriculture has advised with regard to the future management of the last-named Farm. The Chittagong Farm has continued to attract much local interest. The question of the establishment of an experimental farm at Pusa is still unsettled.

Sericulture.

568. The efforts of the Bengal Silk Committee to assist production of healthy silkworms were attended, except in the district of Birbhum, with successful results. Enquiry is being made into the causes of the failure of the operations in that district. To enable the Committee to further expand the scope of their operations, and to meet additional expenditure in connection with the erection of new model nurseries in the centres of important silk districts, the annual grant of Rs. 3,000 hitherto made by Government was raised to Rs. 6,000 for the year 1902-1903, with the prospect of its being continued at this increased rate for two years more.

The course of sericultural instruction imparted at the Rampur Boalia Industrial School was remodelled on a more popular basis, the main object of the school being the training of cocoon-rearers' sons. In their case the course of training was reduced to six months, and no educational qualifications are required. The one-year rearers' class has been retained for educated students to be trained for the posts of sub-overseers and inspectors in the villages. To encourage the training of rearers' sons in the elementary course, the majority of the District Board scholarships are to be assigned to them.

Agricultural Education.

569. The two years' course of the Agricultural Class at the Sibpur College came into operation in November last, and instead of a higher and a lower class there is, at present, a first and second-year's class. The number of students in both classes is only six. The falling-off of the attendance may be partly due to the introduction of the two years' course. Twelve students of the higher agricultural class and six of the now defunct lower class appeared in the final examination during the year under report. Ten out of twelve of the higher class and all the lower class students passed. All the passed students of the first batch and the majority of those of the second batch have obtained appointments.

Two of the 17 passed students of the higher agricultural class have been appointed Deputy Collectors and six Sub-Deputy Collectors. Only one higher class and three lower class students have not yet obtained employment. Two lower class students have been appointed Overseers of the Sibpur and Chittagong Farms, and have been enrolled as 2nd-grade kanungoes in their respective Divisions. Two higher class students are employed as teachers of Agriculture and Science at the Dacca and Hooghly Training Schools. Passed students have also been employed by several private land-owners. Under orders issued by Government during the year every alternate permanent vacancy in the post of Kanungo in all Divisions except Patna will be given to a student of the agricultural classes if duly qualified.

Fairs and Exhibitions.

570. Twelve Agricultural Exhibitions and Cattle Fairs were held at various places in the Province during the year.

To encourage improvement in the breeding of cattle, the Government of India intimated that they were prepared to place the sum of Rs. 2,500 annually, for a period of three years, at the disposal of the Government of Bengal for the systematic award of prizes at cattle fairs. Under the rules the interests of breeders who are also agriculturists have received special attention. The object of the scheme being to encourage local breeding, it was held that comparatively small fairs may be as suitable in achieving this end as large ones, provided that they secure the interests of local breeders. Prizes are not restricted to residents of the particular district in which the fair is held; but residents of neighbouring districts are allowed to compete if it is considered that useful results are likely to follow such extension. Grants were made, and prizes offered, accordingly, at the Sonepore, Kalimpong, and Suri fairs.

Cost of Agricultural Experiments.

571. The cost to Government of agricultural experiments and miscellaneous enquiries conducted under the direct supervision of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture during the year under report amounted to Rs. 4,696, against Rs. 5,879 expended in the preceding year.

Weather and Crops.

[Season and Crop Report of Bengal for 1901-1902: Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for 1901-1902.]

Character of the season.

572. The total rainfall of the year was below the normal in Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa, the deficiency in Bihar amounting to no less than 26 per cent. It was also badly distributed. In the early months of the year normal conditions prevailed in Bengal, for although the pre-monsoon showers were weak in Northern Bengal, and the fall in June and July was deficient in the western districts, the balance was restored by good rain in September. But in Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa the early rains were deficient, and in the North Ganges districts of the Patna Division and in the Bhagalpur Division the September fall was also below the average. The monsoon terminated everywhere in September, the all-important *hathiya* rains failing in Bihar. A cyclonic storm brought rain to Bengal and Orissa in November, but the winter rains held off, and the drought lasted until the middle of March. The early cessation of the rains and the drought throughout the cold weather caused wide-spread injury to the crops, the damage having been most marked in the North Ganges districts of the Patna Division.

***Bhadoi* or Autumn Crops.**

573. The season was, on the whole, unfavourable for the autumn crops. The area sown with *bhadoi* crops was below the normal, owing to the scanty rainfall in the sowing season. The same cause, as well as the early cessation of the rains, reduced the average outturn. The total area cultivated with all descriptions of the *bhadoi* crops (both food and non-food) was 15,390,400 acres as compared with 15,136,600 acres of the preceding year, and a normal area of 15,844,900 acres. *Bhadoi* food-crops occupied 12,193,500 acres against 12,050,700 acres in 1900-1901, the normal being 12,451,000 acres. The area under the *bhadoi* non-food crops, including jute, indigo and *bhadoi til*, also increased from 3,085,900 acres in 1900-1901 to 3,196,900 acres, though still showing a deficiency as compared with the normal area of 3,393,900 acres. The outturn of the *bhadoi* crops as a whole for the Province amounted to 90 per cent. of a normal crop, which is about the same as was reaped in the previous

year. Jute was a full crop, but indigo in Bihar gave only 80 per cent., and all the *bhadoi* food-crops together yielded 85 per cent. of a normal outturn.

574. Owing to the early cessation of the rains the winter rice crop was seriously damaged everywhere, except in East Bengal. There was drought in October, when rain is urgently needed to swell the grain. In Bihar a dry September increased the mischief, and caused a serious crop failure in the unirrigated districts of the Patna Division, where the outturn varied from 25 per cent. only in Saran to 50 per cent. in Patna. Many parts of the Bhagalpur Division also suffered from the drought, while some damage was caused in Lower Bengal by a cyclonic storm in November. The area cultivated with winter-rice crop was estimated at 28,727,200 acres against 28,474,400 acres in 1900-1901, and a normal area of 30,443,600 acres. The yield in the Province as a whole was estimated at only 75 per cent. of a normal crop. **Winter Rice.**

575. The abrupt termination of the monsoon in October retarded the sowing of the *rabi* crops; and although the heavy showers at the end of November benefited these crops, in some districts the subsequent drought, extending to the middle of March, destroyed the prospects of even a moderate harvest. The Patna Division, in which these crops are most extensively grown, was particularly unfortunate in its weather throughout the season. The total area cultivated in all the *rabi* crops, both food and non-food, including sugarcane and tobacco, was returned as 14,941,400 acres against 15,496,400 in 1900-1901, the normal area being returned as 16,521,300 acres. The drought at the sowing season caused this marked decrease in the area sown with these crops. The area under the various *rabi* food-crops, including wheat and sugarcane, fell from 10,341,600 acres in 1900-1901 to 9,982,900 acres in the year under report, the normal being estimated at 11,028,000 acres, while their outturn was finally estimated at 72 per cent. of the average. There was a similar decrease of 196,300 acres in the area under the various *rabi* non-food crops. The outturn of all these crops in the whole Province averaged only 75 per cent. of a normal crop. The *boro*, or summer rice, crop, which was benefited to some extent by the rains in the middle of March, and sugarcane were the only crops which prospered in any degree, their yield being estimated at 92 and 94 per cent., respectively. ***Rabi* Crops.**

576. The total yield of all the crops of the year in these Provinces was estimated at only 72·7 per cent. of an average outturn.

The following summary of the harvests is given Division by Division:—

In the Burdwan Division* the rainfall in 1901-1902 was both inadequate and unseasonable. The *bhadoi* food-crops of the Division gave only an 87 per cent. outturn, while the winter rice crop, which is the principal food-crop of the people, yielded only 81 per cent. of a normal crop. Considerable damage was caused to the winter rice crop in Hooghly and Midnapore; in the former district by floods in September, and in the latter by a cyclone in November, while the crops in the other districts suffered owing to deficiency of rain in October. The abrupt cessation of the monsoon rains in September affected the *rabi* crop, which gave only 67 per cent. of the average.

In the Presidency Division the rainfall was generally seasonable and well distributed, except in Murshidabad, where the deficiency affected the *bhadoi* and winter rice crops. An extremely high tide which accompanied the cyclone of November, however, washed away a portion of the crops in the more exposed parts of the Sundarbans, and, breaching some minor embankments, did considerable damage within a restricted area in the 24 Parganas. Crops generally were a little below the average. *Bhadoi* rice gave only 78 per cent. outturn, while winter rice, which is the staple food-crop of the Division, yielded only 83 per cent. The outturn of the *rabi* food-crops was only 85 per cent. of the normal.

In the Rajshahi Division the monsoon rainfall was not only below the normal, but was also ill distributed and the outturn of the winter rice and indigo suffered in consequence. The *bhadoi* food-crops gave a 90 per cent. outturn and the *bhadoi* non-food crops including jute yielded 91 per cent. of the average. Indigo was the poorest with a 50 per cent. production, while winter

* Figures showing the rainfall of each district in this and the other Divisions during the year will be found in Appendix XXVIII to the Land Revenue Administration Report of the Lower Provinces for 1901-1902.

rice, which is the staple food-crop of the Division, was estimated at 76 per cent. of the normal. The *rabi* food-crops, including wheat, produced a 97 per cent. outturn and oilseeds were 93 per cent. of the normal.

In the Dacca Division the average rainfall was above that of the previous four years, but the excess was entirely due to unusually heavy rains in Mymensingh. The distribution was favourable to the *bhadoi* and winter rice, but not to the *rabi* crops. The Divisional outturns of the *bhadoi* (food) and winter rice crops were 104 per cent. and 97 per cent. respectively. Jute was a bumper crop, but the *rabi* food-crops yielded only 83 per cent. of a normal outturn, though oilseeds gave 93 per cent. of an average crop.

In the Chittagong Division the distribution of the rainfall was favourable, except in Tippera, where excess of rain in June and September and deficiency in July and August caused damage to the winter rice crop. The Divisional outturn of the *bhadoi* food-crops was 95 per cent. of the normal. Jute was an 88 per cent. crop, while winter-rice, taking the Division as a whole, yielded 98 per cent. of the average. The *rabi* food-crops were very poor and gave only a 68 per cent. outturn, while the oilseeds were estimated at 78 per cent. of the normal.

In the Patna Division the rainfall was not only deficient, following a year of deficiency, but was besides unevenly distributed, and the result was a considerable failure of crop. The *bhadoi* crops were best in Saran, Muzaffarpur and Champaran, which, however, had the worst outturn of winter rice. The Aurangabad subdivision of Gaya, and the Bhabua subdivision of Shahabad, were the tracts which suffered most, but they were greatly helped by the winter rain for the *rabi*. The winter rice suffered severely except on irrigated and very low-lying lands, which are not relatively of great extent in the Patna Division. The *rabi* was also poor. The Divisional outturns of the *bhadoi* food-crops and of indigo were 84 and 78 per cent., respectively. Winter rice yielded only 46 per cent. of the normal, while wheat, which is a staple food-crop here, gave only a 53 per cent. outturn. Other *rabi* food-crops were estimated at 56 per cent., and the oilseeds at only 59 per cent. of the average.

In the Bhagalpur Division the rainfall was not only below the average throughout the Division, but was also very badly distributed, and the result was considerable failure of crops, especially of the winter rice. This crop gave the lowest outturn in North Bhagalpur, North Purnea and the south-west of the Sonthal Parganas. The produce of the *bhadoi* food-crops amounted to only 81 per cent. of the normal, jute and indigo yielded 93 and 91 per cent., respectively, while sugarcane with a 106 per cent. outturn was the best crop of the year. Winter rice was estimated at 57 per cent.; the *rabi* food-crops, including wheat, at 80 per cent., and the oilseed crops at 85 per cent. of the normal. The mango crop in Malda was a poor one.

In the Orissa Division the rainfall was very deficient from June till the middle of September, and agricultural operations were much retarded. There was, however, copious rain in the latter half of September, followed by seasonable falls at intervals, and the winter rice and *rabi* crops proved much better than was anticipated. The *bhadoi* and winter rice harvests turned out 75 per cent. of the average each, while the *rabi* food-crops and oilseeds produced 80 and 84 per cent. of the normal, respectively.

In the Chota Nagpur Division the rainfall during the year under report was 10 inches below the normal. The rains were favourable to the sugarcane and *bhadoi* crops, but a sudden cessation of the rains in October greatly damaged the winter rice and *rabi* crops. The *bhadoi* harvests including sugarcane were very nearly normal, but the winter rice crop was estimated at only 79 per cent. of the average, wheat yielded only a 54 per cent. outturn and the other *rabi* food-crops 67 per cent., while the oilseed crops turned out 73 per cent. of the normal.

Famine and Floods.

Bihar.

577. At the end of the rains disquieting reports as to the effect of the failure of the *hathiya* on the winter rice and *rabi* crops were received from all the districts of the Patna Division, and in consequence of the apprehensions

felt, the Hon'ble Mr. J. A. Bourdillon, who was intimately acquainted with the conditions of the Division having been Commissioner there during the famine of 1896-97, and who had the additional advantage of having been a Member of the Indian Famine Commission of 1901, was deputed to visit the Division and confer with the various local officers as to the situation, and report to Government whether scarcity or famine were to be feared, and whether any measures of relief would be required either at once or later in the season. After very careful enquiry, Mr. Bourdillon submitted a report, dated the 10th December 1901, in which he stated that he found the situation to be much better than it was in 1896-97 because—

(1) the failure of the crops had not been so great;
(2) the past few years had been much more prosperous than those which preceded 1896;
(3) prices were lower and steadier.

Mr. Bourdillon found that no scarcity existed at the beginning of the cold weather of 1901-1902; that there was no uneasiness or apprehension among the people; that no relief measures were immediately needed; and he reported that if the rainfall during the remaining months of 1901-1902 was of an ordinary character, there would be a fair *rabi crop*, and that, in that case, no relief would be needed.

The District Officers of the Patna Division and the Collector of Bhagalpur were instructed to continue to watch the situation, and to submit fortnightly reports as long as there was any apprehension of distress; and as some scarcity was also apprehended in the Jamtara subdivision of the Sonthal Parganas, the Deputy Commissioner was requested to watch the condition of the people in that subdivision.

578. The result of the year between the monsoons has borne out Mr. Bourdillon's anticipations. No unusual measures were taken by District Officers, except in Darbhanga and North Bhagalpur, with regard to which districts anxiety lasted longest. In Darbhanga and North Bhagalpur, work on District Board roads was specially provided in certain tracts, and it was much above the demand. In Bhagalpur much work also was provided by private persons in excavation of tanks, and some charitable relief was given from funds placed at the Collector's disposal by zamindars. Unusually abundant showers fell in North Bihar in April and May last, and enabled the cultivators to make good progress with cultivation for the next *bhadoi* crops, and gave ample employment to the labouring classes, who forthwith abandoned in large numbers the road works and tank works in the Darbhanga and Bhagalpur districts.

No distress having appeared and prospects being satisfactory in all the districts which were being watched, permission to discontinue the fortnightly reports was given, in the case of Shahabad, by the middle of January, in the case of Gaya, by the end of March, and in the case of Saran, Champaran and Muzaffarpur, by the end of May 1902. Reports for the Darbhanga and Bhagalpur districts were discontinued in the beginning of June. The monsoon rains of 1902, after some delay, were fully established in the Bihar districts by the middle of July. At the end of May 1902, the prices of common rice and *makai* were nearly normal in the four North Ganges districts of the Patna Division, but were considerably in excess of the normal in the Bhagalpur district.

Chittagong Hill Tracts.

579. In May 1901, the Commissioner of Chittagong reported that the *jhum* paddy crop, on which the inhabitants of the Hill Tracts depend principally for their food-supply, had failed during two successive seasons in certain parts of the Chittagong Hill Tracts, principally in the Upper Chingri valley, and that in consequence the people there were suffering distress and would have nothing to live on until September next when the early *jhum* crop would be harvested. It was estimated that about 15,000 souls would be affected. It was accordingly decided to make grain advances, with a view to enable the *jhumias* to remain in their villages and to proceed with their *jhuming* work. An advance of Rs. 15,000 was sanctioned from the Provincial Revenues for the importation of rice from Burma and for its distribution at convenient centres, on the understanding that the grain advances would be recovered in cash through the Mong

Chief to whose circle the scarcity was confined. As a supplementary measure for affording relief, it was decided to employ the *jhumias*, when set free from *jhuming* work, in opening out a road from Mahal Cheri to Rangamati, at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,500.

Altogether 3,936 maunds of rice were imported from Burma at a cost of Rs. 14,911-13-8, and distributed to 2,536 families. It was expected that the whole of the amount spent would be realised by the beginning of the next year. A passable fair weather track was constructed from Mahal Cheri to Rangamati, and about Rs. 500 worth of rice from Provincial and Local Funds was issued to persons working on the road.

Floods.

580. With the heavy rainfall at the beginning of September last the Soñe and Ganges rivers rose suddenly and flooded parts of the Gaya, Patna, and Shahabad districts. The floods subsided quickly, however, and though extensive damage was done to houses, there was no serious loss of cattle or crops. A sum of Rs. 1,000 was spent by the District Board on the relief of the houseless poor in the district of Gaya, and Rs. 600 was raised by public subscription and Rs. 819 in Shahabad for similar objects. In Monghyr an embankment on the Ganges was breached, and the southern portion of the Begusarai subdivision was flooded as far as the railway line. The floods in this district also subsided rapidly, and no relief was needed. Parts of the Arambagh and Khanakul thanas of the Hooghly district were also flooded by the Damodar river. No serious damage was done to life or property. A sum of Rs. 2,000 was spent from Babu Ram Lal Mukerji's Fund for the relief of the houseless poor, and another sum of Rs. 14,000 was made available from Provincial Revenues for the grant of takavi loans, but only Rs. 4,300 was advanced.

Horticulture.

Botanical Gardens.

581. During the year the investigation of the dye-yielding *Indigoferas* was continued at the Royal Botanic Garden, Calcutta, with interesting results, as were also the efforts to extend the cultivation of *Paspalum dilatatum*. The number of named specimens distributed from the herbarium to other botanical establishments was 8,500, and 8,749 specimens were received, the chief contributors being the Director, Royal Gardens, Kew, and the Director, Royal Gardens, Berlin. Various contributions were also received from private individuals. The number of plants distributed during the year was 35,134, which is slightly below the usual figure, the demand for *Rhea* having been very small. The number of plants received was 8,521. During the year 1,206 packets of seeds were received and 4,083 packets distributed.

Forests.

[Progress Report of Forest Administration in the Lower Provinces of Bengal for 1901-1902.]

Area of Forests.

582. The only changes of importance made in the Forest areas during the year were the reservation of 83 square miles of forests in the Chittagong Division, the transfer of 81 square miles of protected forests in Palamau to the Civil Deparment for management by the Deputy Commissioner, and the disforestation of 79 square miles from the Sundarbans forests to be leased for cultivation.

Settlements, Surveys and Demarcation.

583. Progress was made in demarcation work in Chittagong, Singhbhum and Manbhum, and in detailed survey in Singhbhum and Hazaribagh. Progress was not so good in Chittagong, as was anticipated, and discrepancies in the boundary of the Khurda forests still remain to be reconciled.

Working Plans.

584. The working plan for the Puri reserved forests was completed and submitted towards the close of the year, and considerable progress made with the Singhbhum plan. Provisions of sanctioned working plans were fairly worked up to. In the Sundarbans the restrictions placed by the working plan on the size of the *sundri* timber that may be felled have never been fully enforced, and so much undersized timber has been removed as to seriously impair the

stock of the future in the coupes hitherto worked. Steps will be taken on the revision of the working plan this year to secure that the restrictions shall be observed in future.

585. Rupees 22,874 were spent during the year on roads and buildings. Of this sum Rs. 15,420 were spent on new works, including 33 miles of cart-roads and 38 miles of bridle-paths. The Setikhola wire rope-way was worked successfully, and 21,880 maunds of fuel passed over it during the year. The Mahaldaram rope-way was completed, but so far its working has not been a success. Rupees 30,293 were spent on buildings: of this amount Rs. 18,734 were expended on new works. The head-quarters house at Chaibassa was completed and that at Jalpaiguri nearly so. The amount spent on keeping existing buildings in repair, including cost of the temporary chaukidar establishment, was Rs. 11,559. **Communications and Buildings.**

586. The total number of offences against the Forest Law (2,552) was 322 less than in the previous year. A decrease occurred under all main heads, and most of the cases taken into Court were of a petty nature. Offences are much more numerous in the Darjeeling and Tista Divisions than in other Divisions, the two Divisions between them contributing no less than 1,150 of the total number of cases. Two hundred and forty-eight cases were taken into Court, and in 87 per cent. of those decided convictions were obtained. **Breaches of Forest Law.**

587. Protection of the forests from fire was more successful than in the preceding year in the Kurseong, Jalpaiguri and Buxa Divisions, but was less successful in Palamau, Angul and Puri, and especially in Singhbhum. Results in the latter Division are, however, not unsatisfactory as compared with those of preceding dry years, and it is to be hoped that the closure to grazing of areas burned in these forests has had the desired effect of impressing upon the people the need of co-operating with Government in protection of the forests. The benefit that the forests derive from fire-protection is most marked in the Darjeeling Terai and in the Buxa Division, where the *sal* and the *Dalbergia sisoo* are fast reproducing themselves. Of the 72 fires in the fire-traced areas 18 are ascribed to intentional firing, 30 to carelessness or accident and 9 to causes unknown, whilst 15 entered the forests by crossing fire-lines. Of the 23 cases in connection with forest-fires decided by the Courts, 20 ended in conviction, rigorous imprisonment being awarded in 18. **Forest Fires.**

588. The total area under artificial reproduction at the close of the year was 7,564 acres, and the total expenditure incurred in this respect Rs. 8,849. In the Darjeeling Division 48 acres of forest land near Sandakphu were planted up with silver fir where the original fir-forest had been destroyed by fire many years ago. Cultural operations were carried out over 355 acres at a total cost of Rs. 8,264. The chief work took place in the Darjeeling Division, where 302 acres of the coupes under regeneration were planted up. Creeper-cutting has been conducted with considerable energy and incalculable benefit to the *sal* in the Kurseong forests, but in the Buxa Division much remains to be done in this respect. A number of experiments, chiefly with rubber-producing trees, was made during the year. **Improvement of Forest growth, and Experiments.**

589. The total amount of wood—timber 7,420,129 cubic feet and fuel 35,011,806 cubic feet—extracted from the forests is somewhat in excess of the preceding year; but the increased outturn of timber is only in the working of the Sundarbans and Buxa Forests, where there was an increased demand for *sundri* and *sal*. As compared with the preceding year, there was a falling-off in the value of minor produce extracted from the forests chiefly in the case of the Sundarbans, where stormy weather was unfavourable to the working of small boats, and where tigers killed eighty-six wood-cutters. Since the transfer of the Saoria tract in the Sonthal Parganas protected forests to the Civil Department, on 1st December 1900, the Forest Department has ceased to be credited with the revenue derived from *sabai* grass. **Gross yield and outturn of Forest Produce.**

590. Information under this head will be found in chapter V.—"Revenue and Finance." **Financial Results.**

591. In view of the threatened extinction of buffallo, rhinoceros and bison in the districts of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri, it has been found necessary to prohibit the killing, except in self-defence, or capturing of any buffalo, rhinoceros or bison in the reserved forests of the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts. **Preservation of game in the reserved forests of the districts of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri.**

Manufactures, Mines and other Industries.

[Divisional Commissioners' Miscellaneous Reports for 1901-1902; Agricultural Statistics of India, tables Nos. 7-8 Tea, and 9-10 Coffee; Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Sections XXVI Coal Mines, XXVII Mineral Production, XXVIII Large Industries].

Indigo.

592. The estimated outturn of the indigo crop for 1901-1902 was according to the final estimates of Messrs. Moran & Co. of Calcutta 5,000 maunds for Lower Bengal and 26,000 maunds for Bihar, made up for the most part of 11,000 maunds for Tirhut and the same quantity for Champaran. This outturn is less than half that of 1900-1901.

The quantity of indigo exported to foreign countries fell from 71,637 cwt. in 1900-1901 to 55,038 cwt. in 1901-1902, or by 23·1 per cent.

Tea.

593. The total number of tea gardens in the Province during the year under report was 452, as against 464 in the previous year.

The area under cultivation was 135,129 acres, and the quantity of tea manufactured 46,203,980lbs., the figures being much the same as in the previous year. The various gardens gave employment to 168,935 persons. More than half the gardens are in the district of Jalpaiguri, and of the total output of the year they contributed no less than 31,087,537lbs. The industry is in fact practically confined to this and the Darjeeling District, where there are 170 gardens, with a total outturn of 13,535,537lbs.

The production of tea has increased so much more rapidly than its consumption that there has been a heavy fall in prices, and the tea industry in 1901 passed through a critical period, but prospects at present are less gloomy. The restriction of output, and the reduction of the quantity exported, had the effect of elevating prices to some extent last season from the low level to which they fell in the preceding season.

Coffee.

594. There was no production of coffee during the year under report either in the district of Hazaribagh or in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Cinchona.

595. The rainfall during the year was much below normal, being only 92·69 inches as against an average of 123·01 for the preceding 27 years. No heavy downpours occurred, and no damage in the plantations has to be recorded. The number of plants put out during the year was 485,530, the area planted at the head-quarters plantation (Mungpoo and Sittong) was 88·28 acres, and at Munsong 103·58 acres. The nursery stock of seedlings at the end of the year under review was 21,500. The total number of living trees of all kinds in the permanent plantations on March 31st, 1901, was 2,763,286. Of these 1,928,422 were at Mungpoo and 246,648 at Sittong. At Munsong, in the Dunsong forest, there were 588,216. At the latter place planting this year has been less successful than could be wished. The crop taken from the plantation during the year has been 203,405lbs. of dry bark, 165,808lbs. coming from Mungpoo, and the balance from Sittong.

The total outturn of manufactured products for the year was 13,434lbs., an increase as compared with the previous year of 3,599lbs. This increased quantity included 2,663lbs. of sulphate of quinine and 936lbs. of cinchona febrifuge.

The issues of sulphate of quinine for the year amounted to 9,793lbs., a decrease of 1,213lbs. as compared with 1900-1901. This decrease is accounted for by the fact that the Jail Department required 1,500lbs. less for conversion into pice-packets. The demand by Government officers for dispensaries, &c., on the other hand, increased by 391lbs.

The issues of cinchona febrifuge for the year amounted to 3,670lbs., a decrease as compared with the previous year of 135lbs. This decrease is explained by the fluctuating character of the demands on the part of medical depôts. The Mian Mir Depôt took 100lbs. more than in 1900-1901, but that at Calcutta required 650lbs. less. This deficit was to some extent counterbalanced by an indent for 300lbs. cinchona febrifuge by the Principal Veterinary Officer, South Africa. Sales to the public were 113lbs. in excess of those for 1900-1901.

The total expenditure of the year was Rs. 1,60,639, and the total receipts, cash sales, and book credits Rs. 1,91,922. The actual profit of the Department for the year the Superintendent calculates to have been approximately Rs. 12,783.

GENERAL ACCOUNT OF MANUFACTURES AND MINES IN THE SEVERAL DIVISIONS.

596. The outturn of coal amounted to 2,636,171 tons, as against 3,163,972 tons in the previous year. There was a decrease in the output of the Raniganj collieries, which is ascribed to the competition of the Jheria coal-fields. **Burdwan Division.**

The silk industry was carried as in the districts of Bankura, Birbhum and Midnapore as in the previous year, but it was nowhere prosperous, the reason probably being the competition of the finer and cheaper foreign stuff. There are several jute and cotton mills in Hooghly and Howrah. Cotton cloth is manufactured in various parts of the Division, but the industry is gradually declining on account of the competition of machine-made stuffs. The fly-shuttle loom is coming into use, but it is said to be unsuited for the fine cloths made of silk and cotton.

There was an increase in the outturn of the iron-works of Howrah and Burdwan. The outturn at Barakar was valued at Rs. 24,09,798, as against Rs. 18,73,980 in the previous year. The outturn in Howrah was valued at Rs. 33,00,000, as against Rs. 29,00,000 in the previous year. At Barakar, where iron is made, and steel beginning to be made from the ore, a great expansion of trade is going on. The outturn of the pottery-works at Raniganj was valued at Rs. 4,97,677, as against Rs. 5,48,203 in the previous year. Shellac continued to be manufactured in Bankura, and on a small scale in Birbhum. The total outturn from Bankura is said to have been 8,207 maunds. The total quantity of paper produced by the Bally and Raniganj paper-mills was 6,336,250lbs., valued at Rs. 8,48,595.

The year opened with a continuance of gloomy prospects for cotton mills, owing to the causes which characterised the preceding year, *i.e.*, dear prices of raw materials, large unsold stock of yarn, and the unsettled condition of China. Subsequently a renewal of demand from China set in, and mills which had been shut up for considerable periods re-started work. The recent continuous fall in silver prices has, however, depressed exchange to such a low level that business with China is no longer possible. The jute season was a late one, and prices ruled very high at the beginning, but there was a very large crop, and prices fell gradually. The two paper mills of Titagar and Kankinara showed a slight increase in their outturn. The industry is at present passing through a state of depression. There has been a steady decline in the indigo industry. Most of the important factories that had been in existence in previous years have been closed. The manufacture of silk cloth in the district of Murshidabad, which had been of late years declining, appears to have improved during the year. The weavers of Mirzapur produced 35,820 yards of silk cloth, worth Rs. 51,502, as against 13,535 yards worth Rs. 14,016 in the preceding year. The Collector of the 24-Parganas reports that the competition of cheap bounty-fed imported sugar has very seriously crippled the industry in his district, while the Collectors of Khulna and Jessore think that the change for the better which has taken place in those districts may be ascribed to the imposition of the countervailing duties on imported sugar. The Collector of Nadia, however, remarks that the duty on bounty-fed sugar does not seem to have affected the sugar industry to any appreciable extent. The manufacture of cotton cloth is gradually declining, as the weavers are unable to compete with the British fabrics. Several fly-shuttle looms have been set up, and are being worked. The total number of factories of all kinds in the Division is reported to have been 74, while the employés were 94,260, as compared with 86,257 in the previous year. **Presidency Division.**

Rajshahi is the only silk-producing district in the Division. The outturn of silk was 162,559lbs., as against 123,360lbs. in the previous year. As regards the silk-rearing industry, so far the Sericultural School at Rampur Boalia has not had much effect in encouraging its revival, but the changes in the system of education recently introduced will, it is hoped, produce better results. The outturn of *ganja* was 11,324 maunds, as against 7,824 maunds in 1900-1901, thus showing an increase of 3,500 maunds during the year under report. **Rajshahi Division.**

The total quantity of tea manufactured during the year under review was 44,623,074lbs., as against 44,850,628lbs. in the previous year. A decrease, both in the number of tea gardens and the gross outturn in Jalpaiguri was due to the resumption, relinquishment, and amalgamation of some of the grants. The hand-loom manufacture of cotton cloths of various kinds in Pabna has

continued in spite of the extensive importation of the cheaper European goods, but the industry is gradually declining.

The Daling colliery is the only mine in the Division. There was no outturn during the year under report, as the previous stock in hand was sufficient to meet the demand. Limestone is found in considerable quantities in the Buxa hills. There is also a newly discovered quarry near Koomai in Darjeeling. The existence of copper and coal at the foot of the Buxa hills is also reported, but no mines were worked during the year.

Dacca Division. There are no mines in the Division, nor are the manufactures of much importance. The two steam oil-mills—one at Dacca and the other at Jhalakati in Backergunge—worked profitably during the year under report.

Chittagong Division. The quantity of tea manufactured in Chittagong during the year under report was 1,187,283lbs. as against 1,252,429lbs. in the previous year. In the Chittagong Hill Tracts 20,040lbs. of tea were manufactured, as against 24,308lbs. in the previous year. The decrease in both cases was due to deficient rainfall. There are no mines in this Division.

Patna Division. As compared with the previous year there has been a considerable decline both in the outturn as well as in the value of indigo in all districts, the result of the competition of artificial dyes. The outturn of saltpetre was 211,419 maunds, as against 211,448 maunds in 1900-1901, and that of salt was 14,838 maunds, as against 12,501 maunds.

Next in importance to indigo and saltpetre is the sugar industry, which is carried on more or less in all the districts. In Shahabad the industry is reported to be declining, owing to the large importation of cheaper Mauritius sugar. In Saran there was an increase both in the outturn and value of sugar manufactured. One of the causes of the increase is the demand of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh and elsewhere, which stimulated production. In Champaran the outturn is estimated at 18,580 maunds, as against 14,973 maunds in 1900-1901. The imposition of duties on bounty-fed sugar has, to a certain extent, led to the revival in the trade of native refineries, which had severely suffered from competition with foreign sugar. In Darbhanga the estimated value of sugar manufactured during the year under report was Rs. 3,43,876, as against Rs. 3,25,578 of the previous years. The total outturn of the mica mines in the district of Gaya was 2,380 maunds, as against 1,547 maunds in the preceding year.

Bhagalpur Division. The gun trade of Monghyr has increased during the year, the number exported being 668, as against 528 in the previous year. The two silk factories under European management in the district of Malda turned out 30,694lbs. of raw silk, as against 27,337lbs. in the previous year The attention paid to rearing cocoons in Malda has produced favourable results. The Malda cocoons were in very great demand, being much better than those obtained from Rajshahi. The manufacture of country cloths, though still carried on, is on the whole declining, owing to the spread of machine-made European piece-goods. Brick-making on European methods has been started at Maharajpur in the Sonthal Parganas, and the prospects of the industry seem to be hopeful.

In the Sonthal Parganas 8 coal mines were worked, against 5 in the preceding year, yielding 2,947 tons, as against 2,668. Two mica mines were worked in Monghyr during the year under report. Their total output was 16 against 8·7 tons in the preceding year.

The slate quarries in Monghyr produced 1,237 tons.

Orissa Division. There is no manufacture of any importance. Salt was not manufactured during the year. There are no mines in the Division, but laterite, sandstone, limestone and other building materials are taken out from the quarries.

Chota Nagpur Division. Lac is produced throughout the Division, but factories for the manufacture of shellac exist only in the districts of Ranchi and Manbhum. The industry in the Ranchi district is said to be in a bad state, and not to have recovered from the effects of the depression of the previous years. In Manbhum 40 factories worked during the year, as against 52 in the preceding year, the estimated outturn being 15,000 maunds, as against 21,000 in the preceding year. This falling-off is due to the comparatively small outturn of the raw material.

Of the four tea-gardens in Hazaribagh in three of them no work was carried on, and consequently the total quantity of tea-manufactured fell from

11,300lbs. in the preceding year to only 3,000lbs. during the year under review. In Ranchi the outturn was 370,583lbs., as against 371,326lbs. in the preceding year. The year was not favourable to tea cultivation. Climatic conditions are generally unfavourable to the proper growth of the plant. The gardens are consequently not paying, and exist simply because of the cheapness of labour. Directly the competition of the mines and railways begins to be felt, the gardens, it is feared, will have to be closed. In spite of the introduction of the fly-shuttle there was a considerable falling-off in the manufacture of *tusser* cloths in the Manbhum district. The coal and mica mining industries are developing extensively. During the year under review nearly 60 new coal mines were opened in Manbhum. The total output of coal in the Division was 2,848,467 tons. The output of mica in Hazaribagh was 21,749 maunds, as against 10,201 maunds in 1900-1901, and of iron ore in Singhbhum 5,996 tons.

Factories.

[Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XIX; Annual Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act in Bengal for 1901.]

Number of Factories and System of Work.

597. The factories actually at work at the close of the year 1901 were 242 in number. Thirty-eight factories were brought under the operation of the Act during the year under report, viz., 2 in Calcutta, 4 in Howrah, 4 in the 24-Parganas, 8 in Pabna, 18 in Dacca and 2 in Purnea. Two factories were removed from the list, and 11 did not work during the year. The actual increase in the number of factories was, therefore, 25. In 93 factories work was carried on by shifts or sets, in 112 with midday stoppages, in 6 by shifts and midday stoppages, and in 31 with other arrangements. Forty-three factories were exempted from the rule requiring a Sunday or weekly holiday. The average daily number of operatives in the mills aggregated (men, women and children) 200,019, as compared with 183,192 in 1900. A comparison of the figures for 1900 and 1901 with those for the year 1893, when the factory report was first submitted, shows that factory workers have increased 36 per cent. in number during the last eight years. The cotton industry has shown a considerable revival during the past year. The jute mills and presses, which make up more than half the whole number of factories, have been fully employed during the year, and it is anticipated that two new mills will shortly commence working at Kankinara and Shamnagore.

Inspection.

598. Inspections were made of 13 factories once, of 29 twice, of 63 three times and of 135 more than three times. Only two factories—one in Midnapore and the other in Dacca—were not inspected. The inspections were generally attended with salutary results, and the suggestions made by the inspecting officers as regards fencing of machinery, water-supply, sanitation, ventilation and employment of women and children, as a rule, received prompt attention from the managers.

Sanitary arrangements and Ventilation.

599. The sanitary condition and arrangements of the factories continued to be generally satisfactory, and were approved by the inspecting officers. The sanitary condition of one factory in the 24-Parganas was reported to be unsatisfactory, and legal steps had to be taken; and in one factory in Hooghly the suggestions made by the Civil Medical Officer for the improvement of latrines did not receive attention. New and improved latrines on the septic-tank system have been introduced in some mills in the districts of Howrah and Pabna and in Raniganj, with good results.

Quarters for Operatives.

600. In most of the factories in the 24-Parganas the mill-owners provide quarters for the operatives, and the sanitary condition of these quarters is good. The lines for mill-workers at the Serampore Cotton Mills are also favourably mentioned. Many operatives, however, live in insanitary *bustees*. The measures necessary for the sanitary improvement of the quarters occupied by mill-workers in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions have long been under the consideration of the Government and the mill-owners, and directions were given during the year to take proceedings under the provisions of the Municipal Act in selected *bustees*. The improvement of one of the *bustees* by the Howrah Municipality and the survey of some overcrowded *bustees* in the district of the 24-Parganas are mentioned as having been carried out during the year.

Vaccination of Operatives.

601. As a general rule no one who was not vaccinated was employed in a factory, and a few unprotected operatives were vaccinated after admission.

It is reported that in Monghyr during the last year, owing to the disturbed condition of the people caused by the prevalence of plague, vaccination was not carried out in the workshops to the same extent as in former years.

Water-supply.

602. The supply of drinking-water was generally good and sufficient. The extension of the filtered water-supply to a number of the mills in the 24-Parganas is especially satisfactory.

General health of the Operatives.

603. The general health of the operatives was good during the year. Sporadic cases of cholera and small-pox occurred in the 24-Parganas and Hooghly, respectively; but there was no epidemic of any kind.

Wages and General Condition of Operatives.

604. The wages of the different classes of skilled and unskilled labour were much the same as in the previous year. The general condition of the operatives was good, and they are generally in better condition than the agricultural labourers of the districts. The rules regarding the employment of women and children were, on the whole, duly observed.

Fencing of Machinery.

605. The machinery in the factories is reported to have been properly fenced, and the dangerous parts are well protected. The factory managers have readily carried out alterations recommended to them by the inspecting officers.

Accidents.

606. The total number of accidents during the year was 548, as compared with 462 and 535 during the two preceding years. Of these 348 were of a slight and 170 of a serious nature, and 30 proved fatal. Almost all the accidents were due to carelessness, or disobedience of orders, on the part of the persons injured.

Prosecutions.

607. There was only one prosecution under the Factories Act during the year. In this case a manager was fined Rs. 50 for employing a child on night work. A mill in the district of Howrah was found to work on Sundays, and this irregularity was stopped.

Trade.

FOREIGN SEA-BORNE TRADE.

[Report on the Maritime Trade of Bengal for 1901-1902.]

608. The disturbing influences of the failure of the crops with the attendant famine and loss of purchasing power, which proved so disastrous in the two preceding years, were in great measure effaced in the latter half of 1900-1901: and with the return of fairly good agricultural seasons trade resumed its normal conditions in 1901-1902, so that the trade of this year reached the highest value yet recorded both for imports and exports.

The extent to which the foreign trade of the Province is centred in Calcutta is apparent from the following figures of the value of the trade in 1901-1902 (000's omitted):—

		The Province. Rs.	Calcutta. Rs.
Merchandise—			
Imports	...	32,81,96	32,68,93
Exports	...	55,38,31	53,62,03
Treasure—			
Imports	...	5,11,70	5,11,70
Exports	...	54,65	54,65

At Chittagong there is a small import trade in railway material and salt, but the export trade in jute and tea has recently received an impetus by the opening of the Assam-Bengal Railway and the running of Clan Line steamers direct to the United Kingdom. At the Orissa ports there is an insignificant trade in rice. In the paragraphs below, reviewing the course of the trade in each important item, the remarks made apply therefore to Calcutta only, unless the trade at any other port is specifically mentioned.

Imports of Merchandise.

[Report on the Maritime Trade of Bengal for 1901-1902, Appendix, II.]

609. The 32·69 crores, which represented the value of imported merchandise were distributed in the main as follows among the principal articles in the import trade (000's omitted):—

				Rs.
Cotton piece-goods, Rs. 14,57,02 ,, other fabrics, ,, 57,36 ,, yarn, ,, 82,48	...	...	...	15,96,86
Iron and steel ...	...	...	...	2,22,44
Sugar ...	...	...	...	1,64,76
Petroleum— Kerosene, Rs. 1,66,76 Other sorts, ,, 20,24	...	...	...	1,87,00
Machinery and millwork	...	...	...	1,50,05
Woollen goods ...	...	...	...	70,92
Hardware and cutlery	...	...	...	66,03
Railway material	...	...	...	22,93
Liquors ...	...	...	...	47,67
Drugs and narcotics	...	...	...	44,98
Apparel ...	...	...	...	46,23
Salt ...	...	...	...	65,04

610. Almost half of the aggregate is represented by the vast trade in cotton-goods and yarns. The effectiveness of the competition of cotton spun and woven in India with these goods is attested by the relative stagnation of the imports, which do not increase as they might be expected to do with the increase of the population in numbers, and the increasing desire to wear more clothing and to change it oftener. In grey and coloured piece-goods, as well as in twist and yarn, there were accumulations of stock from the imports of previous years. **Cotton-goods and yarns.**

611. There was a great increase in the imports of metals in 1900-1901, following two years of somewhat restricted trade. In 1901-1902 the increase in unwrought copper (of which prices fell), as well as in unwrought iron, steel, tin and zinc. The imports of steel have continued to expand at the expense of iron, and a noteworthy feature is the displacement of steel from the United Kingdom by imports from Belgium. **Metals.**

The revival of the trade in machinery and millwork, which began in 1900-1901 was continued in the following year when a rise of 47 per cent. occurred in the value of imports. Among the descriptions more largely imported may be mentioned machinery for jute-mills, for electrical purposes, for cotton and sugar-mills, and for mining; but machinery for tea gardens decreased.

612. The importation of refined sugar has continued to increase and the increase is due solely to importations of beet sugar which rose by 66·4 per cent. in quantity, while the quantity of cane-sugar fell by 11·3 per cent. The average price of all refined sugar imported has continued to fall, the price per cwt. being Rs. 11-2-7 in 1899-1900, Rs. 10-13-1 in 1900-1901 and Rs. 10-2-10 in 1901-1902. The greatest fall, however, has been in Mauritius sugar, the decrease in which was Re. 1-10 per bazar maund. The countervailing duties do not so far appear to have had much influence in checking the imports of bounty-fed sugar. Two events of importance to the sugar-trade occurring in 1901-1902 were the "Finance Act, 1901," levying a duty on sugar imported into the United Kingdom and the decision of the Sugar Conference at Brussels to suppress all direct or indirect bounties on the product from 1st September 1903. With the growth of the great import trade in refined sugar there has undoubtedly been created in the country a permanent demand for clean sugar amongst people who formerly were acquainted only with the inferior product from native refineries; and it is satisfactory to know that a promising beginning has been made to adjust supply to demand by the establishment of a large refinery, with modern appliances, near Muzaffarpur in Bihar. **Sugar.**

613. The importations of kerosene-oil, after falling from 42⅓ million gallons in 1899-1900 to 34½ in the next year, rose again in the year under report, reaching 44 million gallons. The competition between American and Russian **Petroleum.**

oil carried on for some years has been decided in favour of the latter, the imports of which are rapidly increasing and now exceed those from the United States nearly twenty-fold. Both countries are now face to face with effective competition with petroleum from the refineries in Burma. The imports from this Province into Bengal six years ago were below two million gallons: in 1900-1901 they were above nine millions, and had advanced in the year under report to nearly fourteen million gallons.

Woollen piece-goods.

614. In woollen piece-goods the trade has fluctuated in the last three years without any signs of expansion. The import of shawls, after a remarkable increase in 1900-1901, has contracted.

Salt.

615. Salt, which was imported in smaller quantity in 1900-1901 owing to high rates of freight, and at times to the absence of tonnage, was in the year under report, owing to the reversal of these conditions, imported in largely increased quantity, the rise being 51·2 per cent. In recent years an increase has been noticeable in the quantity of salt received from Aden and the Red Sea, which, not being hampered with Suez Canal dues, can, it is said, compete favourably with European salt.

Import trade of Calcutta with European countries.

616. The articles enumerated above constitute the bulk of the import trade at Calcutta, and it is unnecessary to notice in detail the other articles which enter into the trade, the items individually being of relatively small value.

About five-sixths of the value of the import trade of Calcutta represent in 1901-1902 the value of imports from Europe, British trade easily dominating, for to the extent of two-thirds (67 per cent.) the import trade is from the United Kingdom. Russia has the largest trade with Calcuttaof countries in Continental Europe, practically all of it being represented by kerosene-oil, and Germany follows not far behind with Belgium next in the scale. Amongst Asiatic countries the largest part of the import trade is conducted with Ceylon, China and the Straits. The imports into Calcutta from the United States have fallen, as those from Russia have increased, owing to the ill-success of American petroleum in competition with the Russian oil. Apart from petroleum, the imports from the United States are not important.

Exports of Merchandise.

[Report on the Maritime Trade of Bengal for 1901-1902, Appendix III.]

617. The value of the export trade of Calcutta which, after the years of depression, had increased materially in 1899-1900 and again in 1900-1901, reaching in the latter year just above 54 crores, receded in 1901-1902 to just below that figure.

But this decrease is due to the transfer of trade to Chittagong, as the total export trade of the Presidency shows an advance of 24 lakhs.

Long as is the list of articles exported from Calcutta, the greater part of the value of the trade attaches to the few articles enumerated below (000's omitted):—

Jute, raw,	Rs. 10,90,03				
„ manufactured,	„ 8,67,98			...	19,58,01
Tea ...	...	...	...	...	7,10,78
Opium ...	...	...	...	...	6,24,13
Hides and skins	...	...	...	...	4,46,94
Grain and pulse	...	...	...	...	3,64,25
Oilseeds	...	...	...	...	5,17,83
Indigo	...	...	...	...	1,23,55

Jute and Jute goods.

618. The value of jute and of the goods manufactured from it (gunny-bags and cloth) represents more than a third of the aggregate value of the foreign trade of Calcutta, and if account is taken of the great quantity of jute manufactures exported from Calcutta by rail and coastwise for the packing of Indian produce and the quantity used on the spot for the same purpose, it is probably no exaggeration to say that quite half of the trade of Calcutta is dependent on the jute-fields of Eastern Bengal, and on the jute-mills established along the banks of the Hooghly.

The exports of both raw and manufactured jute, after having been somewhat restricted in the two years 1898-99 and 1899-1900, expanded again in the two succeeding years. An abundant crop and consequent low prices stimulated

the exports of raw jute, which amounted to nearly 3·85 million bales. Direct shipments from Chittagong to foreign countries increased by 76·7 per cent. over the preceding year, and formed about one-fifteenth of the total exports of raw jute. Manufactured jute in the form of gunny-bags and gunny-cloth was also exported actively, the quantities shipped being the highest on record. Gradual extensions in the jute-mills contributed to the increase, and the extensions may be gauged by the fact that imports of machinery for jute-mills in the past year rose in value by 19 lakhs.

Tea.

619. If to the value of jute, raw and manufactured, is added the value of tea it will be seen that, substantially, more than half the foreign trade of Calcutta is represented by these articles. Unfortunately, while the jute industry has in the main thriven and expanded, with profit on the whole to cultivators, manufacturers and middlemen, the tea industry has been passing through a phase of acute depression. For some years past new areas were brought under cultivation with tea, and as these added areas came into bearing ever-increasing quantities were shipped to the United Kingdom, which takes nine-tenths of the tea shipped from India. That market reached a point where expansion of consumption could only be expected in proportion to expansion of population, but Indian tea was shipped to England in quantities greatly in excess of the demand from year to year, and had to struggle for a place in that market with Ceylon tea, also landed from year to year in ever-increasing quantity. The consequence of this constantly augmented supply on a market in which the demand increases but slowly was a continued fall of prices. With each fall of prices the owners of tea plantations proceeded to make more tea, hoping to obtain by a further increase in quantity the profit lost by the fall of prices. But each such further increase impaired the quality of the tea, and a renewed fall of prices followed the increased quantity and inferior quality. In 1900-1901 a small restriction of the supply was followed by a slight recovery in prices. In 1901-1902 production was curtailed by a more careful system of plucking which, besides giving smaller quantity of leaf, caused an improvement in the quality. Unfavourable weather, too, caused a restriction in the yield: and the actual outturn reported for the season 1901 was 165½ million lbs. or 7 per cent. below that of the preceding year. The total exports were 171 million lbs. or 6 per cent below the preceding year, and of this quantity nearly 15 million lbs. were shipped from Chittagong, a departure from the usual practice of bringing the entire production to Calcutta. With short supplies prices in Europe hardened, and the average value of Indian teas in the markets there at the close of the year was about a half-penny higher than at the close of the previous year, chiefly in the lower grades. A scheme has also been set on foot to create a market for tea among the masses in India by the sale of pice packets and pice cups of brewed tea, and the results obtained so far are encouraging.

Opium.

620. The trade in opium which had received an impetus in the previous year by a rise in price, and poor opium harvests in China and in Malwa, increased also in the year under report by 6·8 per cent. in quantity, but only 1·9 per cent. in value. Prices fell both in Calcutta and in Hongkong. The crop in China was a good one, and in this connection it may be noted that the cultivation of opium is reported to be spreading throughout that Empire to an extent likely to interfere with the prospects of the imported article.

Hides and Skins.

621. The unprecedentally large exports of hides and skins (mainly raw or undressed) in the two preceding years, owing to the great mortality of cattle from drought and famine, were followed by the natural reaction and the absence of the ordinary supply. The exports of hides, therefore, fell off by 34·1 per cent. But shipments of raw skins rose in value by 25·1 per cent. mostly, as usual, goats' skins to the United States, where there is a great demand for the article for the manufacture of "chrome" leather.

Grain and Pulse.

622. A decrease in the exports of grain and pulse followed the great restriction in the preceding year, when it was due to drought and scarcity in India. The fall last year was due chiefly to the smaller exports of rice and wheat, owing (in the case of rice) to a slight decrease in the general yield, and (in all cases to the necessity of replenishing local stocks as well as to a higher level of prices) than in ordinary years, or, in other words, to the divergence of price at the port of shipment and at the port of destination.

Oilseeds.

623. Among oilseeds the exports of linseed are by far the largest, and this trade recovered somewhat from the depression caused by unfavourable seasonal conditions and failure of the crop in the two preceding years. The demand for linseed was brisk, and a high range of prices was maintained. Of rapeseed, which is the next largest item, the exports from Calcutta have been declining for some years.

Indigo.

624. The reduction of the exports of indigo is due partly to bad crops, but the restricted cultivation resulting from the fall in price, caused by the competition of synthetic indigo, is the real and abiding reason for the decline of the trade for a reduced production of the natural dye no longer gives a compensating increase in price. The decline in the exports brings the trade down to the smallest since 1879-80.

Coal.

625. The exports in 1900-1901 of coal shipped as freight, for supply to foreign ports, were between four and five times as large as they were five years previously. Bengal coal received its stimulus in the high prices of English coal in 1900 and 1901. The expansion of the trade in 1901-1902, 2·5 per cent. was not so marked as in the preceding year. A check occurred in the closing months which is attributed to the competition, which set in afresh between Bengal and Welsh coal, owing to a fall in price and lower freights for the latter, and possibly also to the accumulation of stocks at the ports of destination. The total exports, including bunker coal, amounted to 1,212,641 tons.

Export trade of Calcutta with European countries.

626. About three-fifths of the export trade of Calcutta are conducted with European countries, the United Kingdom taking about 32 per cent. of the whole. Of the Continental countries Germany took almost as much as all the others combined. Of other countries the trade with the United States came next to that with the United Kingdom, and China, which rose to the third place, had a trade slightly greater than that with Germany.

Chittagong and Orissa Ports.

[Report on the Maritime Trade of Bengal for 1901-1902, Foreign Trade of the Subordinate Ports.]

Chittagong.

627. The opening during the year of a direct line of steamers (the Clan Line) from this port to the United Kingdom, coupled with the facilities for carriage afforded by the Assam-Bengal Railway, have caused a large increase in the foreign trade, the total value being 159·75 lakhs against 71·79 lakhs in 1900-1901. The main features of the trade are indicated in the following table (in Rs. 00000 omitted):—

	Imports.			Exports.	
	1900-1901.	1901-1902.		1900-1901.	1901-1902.
Salt ...	1·64	2·40	Rice ...	16·95	5·25
Railway materials	3·50	8·43	Jute (raw) ...	48·43	87·51
Other articles ...	·54	·40	Tea ...	·67	55·59
			Other articles ...	·06	·17
Total ...	5·68	11·23	Total ...	66·01	148·52

Orissa Ports.

628. The foreign trade is of no importance, and represented in merchandise a value of 29½ lakhs in 1901-1902, against 27½ lakhs in the preceding year, nearly the whole consisting of rice exported from Cuttack.

Frontier Trade.

[Report on the trade of Bengal with Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan for 1901-1902, Tables I and II.]

629. The trade with each of the trans-frontier countries in merchandise may be stated in the figures appended (lakhs of rupees):—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1900-1901.	1901-1902.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.
Nepal	155·95	150·61	120·87	109·67
Tibet	6·20	7·93	6·67	7·24
Sikkim	4·21	5·06	2·46	3·20
Bhutan	2·76	5·11	1·73	1·37

The trade with Nepal is far the largest on the frontier, representing practically nine-tenths of the whole. Much of this is carried by rail to and from several localities in and near the Terai, whence is imported the rice and paddy which form the principal import from Nepal into Bengal. In consequence of the partial failure of the crops and high prices in Nepal, of the prohibition of exports owing to apprehended scarcity in the State, and to smaller demand in British Territory as a result of the cessation of scarcity, the imports of food-grains declined, most of the decline being in rice and paddy. There was an improvement in the trade in all the other important articles imported, namely, cattle, jute, hides and skins, and oilseeds; but on the whole there was a decline in the aggregate value of the trade, due mainly to the restriction of the grain-trade. There was also a somewhat larger decline in the export trade, spread over several articles but none presenting any special significance. In the trade in cotton-yarn and woven-goods representing about two-fifths of the whole trade, there was a small increase.

There was some improvement in the trade with Tibet; but, though it exceeded that of last year, it remained below that of 1899-1900, in which year the exports of textiles and metals to Tibet were relatively active. The conditions which limit trade with Tibet have been described on former occasions, and it need only be said that they continue unmodified in any appreciable degree.

The trade with Sikkim and Bhutan, though better than in the preceding year, is still on a very restricted scale. There are no special features in the trade with Sikkim calling for remark; but it may be noted that it has been ascertained that trade with this State has been passing unregistered through an unrecognised route, and a new registration station has been established in the Darjeeling district for its registration from 1st April 1902. The increase in the trade with Bhutan is due to the development of the importation of oranges, a suggestive illustration of the creation of trade by the facilities offered for transport by the construction of railways.

The aggregate value of the trade in merchandise which passed across the frontier declined by Rs. 10·68 lakhs, or 3·5 per cent. The decline was limited to the trade with Nepal.

Coasting Trade.

[Report on the Maritime Trade of Bengal for 1901-1902.]

630. Of this trade 81 per cent. of the value appertains to Calcutta, of which the actual figures were, in Rs. (000's omitted):—

	1900-1901.	1901-1902.
	Rs.	Rs.
Imports—		
Merchandise	4,71,32	4,77,93
Treasure	10,74	20,84
Exports—		
Merchandise	7,43,41	6,35,43
Treasure	64,08	81,65
Total ...	12,99,56	12,15,85

The increase in the imports of merchandise was due chiefly to a much larger trade in rice and kerosene-oil from Burma, and also to larger imports of timber from that Province, of castor-seed from Madras and of salt from Bombay. There were smaller imports of seeds and cocoanut-oil from Madras, and of cotton-twist from Bombay. The larger transactions in treasure were chiefly in silver.

The decrease in exports of merchandise was mainly due to a fall of 95½ lakhs in value, equivalent to 56·4 per cent. in grain and pulse (chiefly rice) to Madras. Exports of raw silk to that Province also declined and the trade with Burma in spices and seeds was reduced by 22 per cent. On the other hand, there were increased exports of coal (from 144 to 146 lakhs in value and 1,350,000 to 1,388,000 tons in quantity) to Burma, Madras and Bombay, and of *ghi* to Burma. The larger exports of treasure were mainly in rupees sent to Burma, with the object of financing the rice crop which was an exceptionally good one.

Chittagong.

631. The total value of the coasting trade rose from 135¾ lakhs to 178½ lakhs, or by 31·6 per cent., the increase being due mainly to an advance in imports which exceeded the fall in exports. The increase in imports was chiefly in rice from Burma, and to a smaller extent in jute from Narayanganj and cotton goods from Calcutta. The decrease in exports occurred in rice, raw cotton, tea and hides.

Orissa Ports.

632. The effect of the East Coast Railway on the coasting trade of these ports, which was apparent in the contraction of the figures for 1900-1901, is marked in those of 1901-1902. Puri had no coasting trade at all during the year, while Cuttack shows a merely nominal import, and an export which shrank nearly 50 per cent. and stood at a total value of only Rs. 33,585. The trade of Balasore also declined from 57¾ lakhs to 51¾ lakhs, or by 10·3 per cent. one of the specific reasons being the transport of Burma oil from Calcutta to Balasore by rail instead of by sea as in previous years.

Railway and River Trade.

[Report on the Trade carried by Rail and River in Bengal in 1901-1902, Tables I and II.]

633. The total volume of this trade, the estimated value of it, and its main divisions are exhibited in the following table :—

		Trade of Calcutta with Bengal.		Trade of Calcutta with other Provinces.		Trade of Bengal with other Provinces, but not with Calcutta.	
		Import.	Export.	Import.	Export.	Import.	Export.
1900-1901	Mds.	15,35,41,898	2,57,64,496	1,29,17,186	77,24,827	1,46,19,945	3,52,28,108
	Rs.	44,35,72,118	22,42,33,951	15,51,97,058	9,67,97,043	6,33,89,120	9,84,94,352
1901-1902	Mds.	14,42,16,892	2,77,98,743	1,79,39,686	77,24,166	2,00,71,110	3,05,05,375
	Rs.	41,84,63,065	23,44,17,087	13,59,68,018	10,91,30,525	8,25,34,076	7,54,89,197

The value of the trade of Calcutta with Bengal represents 75 per cent. of the total imports and 68 per cent. of the total exports, and consists of the following principal articles in the order of relative importance imported into Calcutta from Bengal, namely, jute and gunny-bags, coal, rice, linseed, tea, opium, silk, gram and pulse, hides and skins, and indigo; and of articles exported from Calcutta to Bengal, cotton manufactures, salt, metals, sugar, railway plant and rolling-stock, and oils.

The trade of Calcutta with other Provinces is mainly with the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh and with Assam, and consists of the following principal imports into Calcutta, namely, tea, oilseeds, opium, wheat, gram and pulse, hides and skins, and woollen goods; and of exports from Calcutta cotton goods, metals and manufactures thereof, grain and pulse, gunny-bags, sugar, salt and provisions.

The trade value of Bengal with other Provinces by rail and river represents 26 per cent. of the total imports, and 15 per cent. of the total exports. The principal articles imported into Bengal were grain and pulse, sugar, opium, oilseeds, and cotton-goods chiefly from the United Provinces; tea, paddy, coal, and timber mainly from Assam; and railway plant and rolling-stock and twist and yarn (Indian), principally from the Central Provinces; while the chief exports from Bengal consisted of coal, kerosene, gunny-bags, lac, and tobacco chiefly to the United Provinces; spices and sugar to Assam; and raw silk to the Central Provinces.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.

[The details of outlay by the Public Works Department will be found in the Finance Accounts issued annually by the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.]

634. The total outlay of the year by the Public Works Department and local authorities on works amounted to Rs. 1,19,56,181. The expenditure incurred by the Public Works Department was Rs. 71,49,233, and by the local

authorities Rs. 48,06,948. Of the former sum Rs. 26,56,099 were expended on Imperial works, and Rs. 43,70,888 on Provincial works.

I.—IMPERIAL WORKS.

635. Good progress was made with the works in connection with the proof range at Chandipur. The metalled road connecting Chandipur with Balasore was completed, the revetment wall on the Chandipur sea-face was nearly finished, the quarters for the Assistant Proof Officer and for the Warrant Officers and the Proof Office in the small arms ammunition range were commenced. **Military Works.**

636. Rupees 4,30,863 were expended during the year on the new Military and Foreign Secretariat Buildings at Calcutta, in addition to Rs. 6,37,739 paid for the "Belatee Bungalow" property which was purchased for the site of the new Foreign Office. "Hasting's House" at Alipore has been purchased, and adapted for use as a residence for Native Chiefs who may be invited by the Government of India to Calcutta as their guests, and a separate two-storied house with out-offices has been erected in the grounds for the accommodation of officers accompanying the Chiefs. Additions and alterations were carried out to the premises No. 26, Mango Lane, Calcutta, to adapt the building for the use of the Currency Office and as an office for the Board of Examiners. The Metcalfe Hall, which has been taken over by the Government of India for the Imperial Library, was put into thorough order. Electric lights were supplied to the Government of India Printing Offices in Hastings Street, Calcutta. **Civil Works.**

Combined Post and Telegraph Offices were completed at Dum-Dum and Kalimpong, and an office at Daltonganj was nearly finished. The existing offices at Kurseong and Gaya were improved. The old Audit Office building of the Tirhut State Railway at Muzaffarpur was purchased for Rs. 31,508 for a post and telegraph office. The telegraph office at Balasore was nearly finished.

II.—PROVINCIAL WORKS.

637. The court-house and lock-up for the City Magistrate of Patna were completed. A building to provide for the records of the Road cess and Public Works cess at Noakhali was finished. Improvements and additions were carried out to the Deputy Commissioner's cutcherry at Jalpaiguri. An additional court-room was provided for the Deputy Commissioner's cutcherry, Chaibassa. At Comilla the Collectorate record-room and treasury were extended, and a building was commenced to give accommodation for a Deputy Magistrate's Court and for the Excise, Income-tax and Certificate Departments. An addition to the Bhagalpur Collectorate had progressed up to 14 feet from floor level. The construction of an additional record-room for the Deputy Commissioner's Court at Angul was well advanced. The Collectorate record-rooms at Alipore, Bogra, Bankipore and Chittagong were fitted up with iron record-racks. The new office for the Commissioner at Cuttack was nearly completed, as was also the new Circuit-house at Motihari. **Collectorates and Magistrates' Courts, and Circuit-houses.**

638. A scheme, estimated to cost Rs. 44,394, was sanctioned at the close of the year for additions and alterations to the existing Court buildings at Monghyr. At Bhagalpur an addition to the Judge's Court was finished up to roof-level. Iron record-racks were erected in the Judge's Court at Comilla. Single munsifis were constructed at Fatickcherry and Buxar, and a treble munsifi at Madaripur. Two treble munsifis were in progress at Bagerhat and Satkhira, a double munsifi at Malda and a single munsifi at Jamui. A double-storied building was added to the Diamond Harbour munsifi for the accommodation of the 4th Munsif's Court, and additions and alterations to the Lalbagh munsifi were in progress. **Civil Courts.**

639. Subdivisional Court-houses were in progress at Gumla and Phulbani. Additions to the Court-houses at Kandi, Bhabhua and Bettiah were in progress. New khas tahsil offices were built at Patiya, Satkania and Bhabhua, and the Banki office was nearly finished. Residences were constructed for the Subdivisional Officers of Fenny and Brahmanbaria, and residences are being erected at Chandpur, Gumla and Madhubani. **Subdivisonal Courts and Residences.**

640. Attention continues to be given to the provision of residences for Munsifs. During the year four (two at Satkania and one at Kishorganj and **Munsifs' Residences.**

Bhola) were completed, eleven (three each at Patiya and Bagerhat, two at Hathazari and one at Cox's Bazar, Iswarganj and Gumla) were in progress.

Excise.

641. The reconstruction of the distillery buildings at Monghyr was completed. Improvements were made in the Bankipore distillery, and in the still-shed and water-supply of the Arrah distillery.

Secretariat Offices.

642. The sanitary conveniences and drainage of Writers' Buildings, which were pronounced to be defective, have been remodelled.

The Kharagpur cemetery, in the Midnapore district, was completed.

Ecclesiastical.

Jails.

643. Steps were taken to provide additional accommodation, which is much required, in jails. At the Mymensingh Jail a new barrack had progressed to top-level of door openings. About two-thirds of the work of enlarging the female ward and erecting a new ward for male prisoners in the Chaibassa Jail was executed. Additions and alterations were being carried out in the Noakhali Jail. The construction of five new barracks at the Faridpur, Dacca, Rampur Boalia, Bankipore and Cuttack Jails, and a new hospital in the Barisal Jail, was sanctioned towards the close of the year. A new subsidiary jail was built at Netrokona; three others were under construction at Chandpur, Gumla and Phulbani; the Madaripur lock-up is being enlarged. Barrack No. 1 in the Bhagalpur Central Jail was fitted up with the full complement of cubicles, viz., 160, and Barrack No. 2 with 59 cubicles. Water-supply schemes for the Berhampore Jail and the Midnapore Central Jail were taken in hand. The former was completed, and good progress made with the latter.

Police.

644. In the Police lines at Arrah a new barrack was built for the accommodation of the Reserve Police. Police-stations were under construction at Gogri and Phulbani. The Dutch barracks at Chinsura were being adapted for the accommodation of "D" Company of the Military Police. A two-storied building providing additional hospital accommodation for the District and Railway Police at Howrah was completed. Two other hospitals were in progress at Midnapore and Balasore.

Educational.

645. A school at Patna City was about half finished, and a building for the school at Phulbani nearly completed. An additional building was erected for the Suri Zillah School. Extra accommodation is being provided for the Chittagong College, Darjeeling High School, and the Khulna and Comilla Zillah Schools. The Physical, Chemical and Astronomical laboratories in the Presidency College were connected up electrically. An extension of the laboratory of the Krishnagar College, including an installation of Mansfield's oil-gas apparatus, was more than half finished, and a similar apparatus was fitted up in the Patna College laboratory. In the compound of the Noakhali Zillah School a hostel was built for the Hindu boys, and the want of more accommodation at the Elliott Hostel, attached to the Calcutta Madrasah, is being met by the addition of a third storey.

Medical.

646. At the European General Hospital, Calcutta, the principal block originally intended for men only, but which is at present used for women and children also, the nurses' quarters and the main kitchen were completed at a cost of Rs. 8,65,608, Rs. 1,03,483 and Rs. 53,672, respectively. The four blocks for contagious cases were nearly finished. Considerable progress was made with the residence for the Surgeon-Superintendent, and with the quarters for the Subordinate Medical staff. The old central block was altered so as to adapt it for the purposes of the administration of the hospital, and some improvements were made in the old west block, rendering it more suitable for the accommodation of paying patients.

An out-door dispensary, quarters for the Hospital Assistant and a ward for contagious cases were constructed at the South Suburban Hospital, Bhawanipur. A new hospital was built for the Alipore Reformatory. At the Eden Sanitarium, Darjeeling, the new surgical ward was furnished with a hot and cold water-supply, and an isolation ward and suitable bath-rooms for the second-class quarters were nearly finished.

Satisfactory progress was made with the work of extending the existing Lunatic Asylum, Berhampore, with the view to the establishment of a Central Asylum providing accommodation for 632 patients. A new ward for females was erected at the European Lunatic Asylum, Calcutta, and improvements were carried out in the Dacca Asylum. The Albert Victor Leper Asylum, Gobra, was completed at a cost of Rs. 1,34,097.

647. Additions to the Burdwan Registration office were commenced. A new Registration office at Purnea had advanced up to roof-level. **Registration.**

648. The foundations of the new Diocesan Girls' School, which is being built on designs made by Mr. S. H. Shaw, Architect, Darjeeling, were commenced. The female ward and the male ward of a new hospital at Muzaffarpur were in progress, and the former nearly completed. A Zenana hospital and operating-room at Midnapore had advanced up to floor-level. **Contribution Works.**

649. An office for the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Patna, was nearly completed. A Natural History Museum in the Botanic Garden, Darjeeling, is being constructed. The Pilgrim Camp at Colonel Hât, Chittagong, was reconstructed at a cost of Rs. 60,948. **Miscellaneous.**

Quarters were erected for the probationary gardener in the Royal Botanic Garden, Sibpur. A third storey is being added to the Port and Shipping Office, Calcutta, to provide quarters for the Port Officer. At Dinajpur and Bogra houses were in progress for the Civil Surgeon and District Superintendent of Police, respectively. An addition of four ground-floor rooms, with two rooms on the upper storey, to the Collector's residence at Faridpur was in progress. Electric lights and fans were installed in the Bishop's Palace, Calcutta.

650. The restoration and reconstruction of the roads and bridges in the Darjeeling district that were either severely damaged or destroyed by the cyclone of September 1899, which was well advanced by March 1901, was completed in the year under review. **Communications.**

Nine of the suspension bridges belonging to the District Road Committee in the Darjeeling district, which were entirely destroyed by the cyclone of 1899, have been rebuilt by the Public Works Department. Eight of these were finished and opened to traffic early in 1901-1902, and the Manjitar bridge was nearly finished by March 1902. It has been opened to traffic since May. The construction of feeder roads in the Duars was continued during the year. Further progress was made on the construction of feeder roads in the Bogra district, which are being constructed by the agency of the District Board. In the Dinajpur district the Bhawanipur-Khurpukhuria road has been completed by the agency of the District Board. The widening of the approach to the Tista suspension bridge was completed during the year. **Rajshahi Division.**

The damage caused by the flood of the previous year to the Orissa Trunk Road between Chandibazar and the Salindi river was made good. At the instance of the Government of the Central Provinces a part of the Cuttack-Sambalpur road, near the boundary, which had been rather neglected, is being improved. **Orissa Division.**

A feeder road from Kolsur to Muslundpur, in the 24-Parganas, was constructed and the feeder road to Halishahar, in the same district, was metalled. **Presidency Division.**

The survey operations for feeder roads to the South Bihar Railway which had been commenced during last year have been completed, and several projects are being worked up in the Monghyr district. **Patna Division.**

651. The Darjeeling Municipality received permission on 5th January 1898, under part VIII of the Bengal Municipal Act, III of 1884, to install and use a system of electric lighting for the streets and roads. As the power generated is in excess of the Municipal requirements, a certain quantity is available for sale to private persons. As the Municipal Act does not give authority for such sales, the provisions of the Calcutta Electric Lighting Act of 1895 have been extended to Darjeeling. **Miscellaneous Public Improvements.**

In order to meet the convenience of the shipping interests in Calcutta it was decided to provide a residence for the Port Officer at the Port Office in the Strand Road. The work is in progress.

Messrs. Kilburn & Co., of Calcutta, acting on behalf of the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, have been granted a license for the supply of electric energy to the "additional added area of Calcutta."

A license has been granted to the Dacca Electric Lighting Trustees for lighting the main streets of the town with electricity. A sum of Rs. 4,56,000 has been made over by the late Nawab Sir Ahsanullah Bahadur to the Trustees for the purpose.

The special repairs to jhoras, roads, drains and hill-sides in Darjeeling station, necessitated by the cyclone of September 1899, were nearly completed by March 1902. The Special Repairs Division was abolished on the 25th April 1902 and the few works remaining to be done on that date have been included in the Darjeeling Division.

The work of demarcating selected points of the Old Fort of Calcutta by means of brass lines set in stone blocks, and by tablets describing the several points, was completed.

His Excellency the Viceroy having expressed his intention of presenting a marble replica of the monument erected by Holwell, in commemoration of the tragedy of the Black Hole, a site was prepared at the north-west corner of Dalhousie Square and the foundations built. For this purpose the statue of Sir Ashley Eden was removed and re-erected on the north side of Dalhousie Square, facing the middle of Writers' Buildings.

The statue, by George Frampton, of Her late Majesty the Queen-Empress Victoria, was handed over to the Public Works Department by the Committee, and has been erected temporarily on a site east of Lord Lawrence's statue on the Calcutta maidan, the intention being to re-erect it eventually in the grounds of the Victoria Memorial Hall.

Storms and Floods.

652. There was a very high flood in the Sone and in the Ganges in September 1901. The level of the Ganges at Dinapore and Monghyr was the highest yet recorded. The road from Bankipore to Dinapore was overtopped, and a breach of 1,200 feet in length was caused. There was a very severe storm in September 1901 in the Sonthal Parganas, which did considerable damage to the buildings at Pakour and Godda.

Administrative Changes.

653. During the year under review an alteration was made in the system of recruiting the Upper Subordinate staff. It has been decided that the Upper Subordinate establishment of the Public Works Department in Bengal shall, in future, be recruited from both sides of the Sibpur College and from the Bihar School of Engineering.

With the sanction of the Government of India the Bihar School of Engineering has been declared to be of the standard required by paragraph 198 of the Public Works Department Code.

Mr. D. B. Horn succeeded Mr. R. B. Buckley as Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government in the Public Works Department.

Railways and Tramways.

[The detailed figures on this subject are contained in the Administration Report on the Railways in India for 1901, published by the Government of India.]

Lines under the Government of India.

654. The Railways in Bengal on the standard and metre gauge (with the exception of the Tarkessur and Deoghur lines), and the 2′-6″ lines which form part of the Eastern Bengal State Railway System are under the direct control of the Government of India.

The additions to the open mileage of these lines in the Province made during the year were:—

	Miles.
Standard gauge.	
Bengal-Nagpur Railway	2·25
Metre gauge.	
Eastern Bengal State Railway	7·09
Bengal-Duars Railway	11·76
Bengal and North-Western Railway	11·36
Total metre gauge	30·21
Special gauge 2′-6″.	
Eastern Bengal State Railway	9·75

The following were among the chief events of the year.

The Report of the Committee appointed to consider the following question:—

(I) The entrance of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway into Jherriah;

(II) The relief of congestion of traffic on the lower section of the East Indian Railway; and,

(III) The provision of an independent access to Calcutta from the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

The Committee recommended that—

(I) The Bengal-Nagpur Railway should be allowed free entrance into the Jherriah coal-fields;

(II) Additional lines were not necessary for the relief of congestion on the East Indian Railway, which was due to other causes; and

(III) A line should be constructed from Gaya to connect with the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, so as to afford an alternative route to Calcutta from Northern India.

During the year a direct service of steamers for the carriage of tea and jute was established between Chittagong and London in connection with the Assam-Bengal Railway. The first steamer left the port on the 4th August, and the experiment promises to prove successful.

Mr. T. Robertson, C.V.O., who had been appointed by His Majesty's Secretary of State to investigate the working of railways in India, made an extensive tour through the Province, visiting all the railways.

The following works of importance were completed within the year:—

On the Bengal and North-Western Railway the Barundhi bridge (8 spans of 80′ girders), the Chota Kosi bridge (7 spans of 80′ girders), and the Boro bridge (3 spans of 60′ girders); on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway the bridge over the Cossye river (16 spans of 100′ girders) near Midnapore; on the Eastern Bengal State Railway, Northern section, the Tista bridge (13 spans of 150′ girders) and approaches, and the Dharla bridge at Moghalhat (10 spans of 150′ girders). The Tista to Moghalhat line, $12\frac{1}{4}$ miles, was converted from 2′-6″ to 3′-$3\frac{3}{8}$″ gauge. The track between Sitarampore and Barakar, on the East Indian Railway, was doubled.

The following matters in connection with these railways have been under the consideration of the Bengal Government during the year:—

(1) Establishment of a wagon ferry by the Bengal and North-Western Railway near Bhagalpur, and the connection with the town of Bhagalpur by means of a metre-gauge line running from the ferry terminus on the right bank of the Ganges.

(2) The opening up of the Sonthal Parganas district by the construction of a through connection between Nawada on the South Bihar Railway and Hooghly on the East Indian Railway *viâ* Madhupur, Ahmedpur and Cutwa, with a branch to Murshidabad. With regard to this scheme, the views of this Government are that it is desirable, but, in comparison with other projects for the construction of railways in Bengal, it is not a matter of pressing urgency. The construction of a light railway from Cutwa to Hooghly has been recommended to the Government of India.

(3) The best method of connecting the Ranchi plateau with the existing system of railways. A connection with the Bengal-Nagpur Railway at Purulia has been recommended.

(4) In January 1902 the Government of India asked for the views of this Government regarding the proposed construction of the southern section of the Ranaghat-Godagiri-Katihar project, viz., from Ranaghat to Murshidabad, on the standard gauge and of the establishment of a transhipping station on a suitable site north of the Ganges when the northern section is undertaken.

The following surveys were completed during the year:—

A branch line, 35 miles long (3′-$3\frac{3}{8}$″ gauge), from Laksam to Noakhali. This line has been sanctioned and is in progress. Assam-Bengal Railway.

A branch line, 20 miles long (3'-3$\frac{3}{8}$" gauge), from Baura to Mathabhanga and thence to Kona Ghat.

Bengal-Duars Railway.

Quadrupling of the line between Naihati and Ballygunge, 26 miles, on the 5'-6" gauge, and a line 70 miles long on the 5'-6" gauge from Shibnibash (Kissenganj) to Magura, with a branch from Kaliganj to Sulkaps *viâ* Jhanda.

Eastern Bengal State Railway.

East Indian Railway.

A line 161 miles long (5'-6" gauge) connecting Gaya with Asansol. A line 28 miles long (5'-6" gauge) partially through the Jherriah coal-fields and about 4 miles east of Lohidi on the East Indian Railway to Bhujudih on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, to allow the latter railway access to the coal-fields.

The survey of the Bankura-Calcutta chord, 96 miles, Bengal-Nagpur Railway, is still in progress.

In September 1901 the Government of India sanctioned the construction of certain lines by the agencies of the Bengal-Nagpur and the East Indian Railways to develop the coal-districts at a total cost of Rs. 27,41,121.

The Government of India also sanctioned, in December 1901, the construction at a cost of Rs. 31,57,366, as part of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway system, of a line from Bhujudih to Hariharpur (27·90 miles) to connect the Gaya-Katrasgarh (E. I. R.) and the Midnapore-Bhujudih (B.-N. R.) Railways.

The concessions which were granted for the Bhagalpur-Bausi-Baidyanath and Chandipur-Taki lines have lapsed.

With regard to the complaints of the insufficiency of the culverts under the Bengal Central Railway near Dum-Dum, the necessary steps for the provision of sufficient waterway have been taken.

In connection with the question of the development of goods traffic *viâ* the Jubilee Bridge and the extended use of the Sealdah Station for passengers and goods, it has been suggested to the Government of India that arrangements for taking up land at Sealdah should be commenced as early as possible.

Lines under the Government of Bengal.

655. The railways in Bengal which are administered by the Government of Bengal are—

(1) Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway	...	...	...	51
(2) Deoghur Railway	...	...	...	4·79
(3) Tarkessur Railway	...	...	...	22·23
(4) Tarkessur-Magra Tramway	...	...	...	31·12
(5) Howrah-Amta „	...	...	...	28·69
(6) Howrah-Sheakhalla „	...	...	...	19·75
(7) Ranaghat-Krishnagar „	...	...	...	20·25
				177·83

Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway.

The total gross earnings during the year amounted to Rs. 7,88,091 and the working expenses to Rs. 4,74,323. There was an increase in the passenger traffic of Rs. 28,973 and a decrease of Rs. 66,347 in goods, the net earnings after payment of the share to which Government is entitled for the use of the cart-road yielding 9·02 per cent. on the capital outlay.

Deoghur Railway.

There was a large increase both in passenger and goods traffic. The percentage of net earnings on capital outlay was 6·87 per cent. against 2·57 per cent. on the previous year.

Tarkessur Railway.

There was an increase in the passenger traffic and a decrease in goods, the net earnings being 8·81 per cent. against 9·03 on the capital outlay of the previous year.

Tarkessur-Magra Light Railway.

There was an increase in the passenger and goods traffic, but, owing to an increase of working expenses, the net earnings were reduced from 2·17 to 2·04 per cent. To attract passengers the fares were reduced.

Howrah-Amta Light Railway.

There was a very slight reduction of the passenger traffic during the year with, however, an increase in goods traffic. The net earnings amounted to 9·53 against 10·36 per cent. of the year before.

Howrah-Sheakhallah Light Railway.

There was a slight increase in the passenger and goods traffic, but the working expenses were considerably increased owing to damages caused by floods in September. The net earnings amounted to 3·80 against 4·40 per cent. the year before.

There was a slight increase in passenger but decrease in goods traffic. The net earnings fell from 2·5 last year to 2·02 per cent. during the year.

The only line under construction during the year was a line 18¾ miles from Bukhtiarpur, a station on the Chord Line of the East Indian Railway, to Behar, the head-quarters of an important subdivision in the Patna district. Ranaghat-Krishnagar Light Railway.

A concession was granted for the construction of an extension of the Howrah-Amta Light Railway, 21 miles in length, from Jagatballabapur to Champadanga.

Irrigation.

[Administration Report of Irrigation Works for the year 1901-1902.]

656. The transactions of the Irrigation Department for the year 1901-1902 are exhibited in the following statements :— Capital and Revenue outlay.

Capital Account.

Heads.	Amount of Construction Estimate.	Expenditure during 1901-1902.	Expenditure to end of 1901-1902.	Balance for Expenditure from 1st April 1902.
Protective Irrigation Works.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Direct charges	40,24,555	2,86,896	4,39,907	35,84,648
Indirect „	94,661	5,985	8,917	85,744
Total ...	41,19,216	2,92,881	4,48,824	36,70,392
Major Irrigation Works.				
Direct charges	6,27,26,976	16,306*	6,25,60,417	1,66,559
Indirect „	17,56,077	2,031	17,55,652	425
Total ...	6,44,83,053	18,337	6,43,16,069	1,66,984
Minor Works and Navigation.				
Direct charges	1,27,15,203	1,43,565	1,24,23,156	2,92,047
Indirect „	3,22,559	3,418	3,25,247	(—) 2,688
Total ...	1,30,37,762	1,46,983	1,27,48,403	2,89,359

* Chargeable to 40—Irrigation ... ... (—)30,155
Ditto to 43—Minor Works and Navigation ... (+)46,461

Revenue Account.

Heads.	Receipts.	Working Expenses.		Total Working Expenses.	Net result.
		Direct Charges.	Indirect Charges.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Major Irrigation Works	17,72,906	11,28,631	94,941	12,23,572	5,49,334
Minor Works and Navigation	5,53,181	4,65,513	19,568	4,85,081	68,100

657. Under the head Agricultural, the total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 19,390, whilst the total expenditure was Rs. 6,76,632, of which Rs. 15,204 were on account of contribution works. Agricultural.

658. In addition to the expenditure shown above, a sum of Rs. 37,778 (inclusive of Establishment and Tools and Plant) was expended on Takavi works and repairs during the year, as compared with Rs. 28,464 in 1900-1901. Takavi and Local Loans.

The excess expenditure was chiefly due to special repairs to the sluice at Tangrabichi in the 24-Parganas district and re-excavation of Protapkhally khal in the Midnapore district having been taken in hand during the year. There was no expenditure on drainage projects chargeable in the Civil accounts under the head "Local Loans."

Classification of Irrigation Works.

659. The Protective Irrigation Works consist of the Tribeni and Dhaka Canals in the Gandak Circle. The Major Works are the Orissa, Midnapore, Hijili Tidal and Sone Canals. The Hijili Tidal Canal is a Navigation Canal only, while the other three are both Irrigation and Navigation Canals. Under Minor Works and Navigation there are three classes—(I) works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept, (II) works for which only revenue accounts are kept, and (III) works for which neither capital nor revenue accounts are kept. Under class (I) come the Calcutta and Eastern Canals, Orissa Coast Canal, and Saran Canals. Under class (II) the Nadia rivers and Gaighata and Baxi khals, and under class (III) the Eden and the Madhuban Canals. The Tirhut and Damodar projects which have been abandoned come also under Minor Works and Navigation.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Major Irrigation Works.

Capital Account.

660. The expenditure (direct charges) charged to the Capital account of the Orissa Canals during the year 1901-1902, was Rs. 40,006, as compared with Rs. 32,030 in the previous year. The total capital outlay for direct charges up to the end of the year stands at Rs. 2,64,83,501.

During the year under review the following works, chargeable to the Capital account of the project, were carried out:—

The most important work in progress is the construction of Dudhai Canal, the estimate for which was sanctioned by the Government of India for Rs. 64,756 for works only. The west wing of the building occupied as office of the Executive Engineer, Mahanadi Division, was remodelled to convert it into an office of the Executive Engineer, Akhoyapada-Jajpur Division, which was removed from Akhoyapada to Cuttack. The construction of a minor distributary from No. 12 Distributary, Taldanda Canal, was commenced.

The number of permanent outlets is now 2,216 against 1,509 in 1900-1901.

Lengths of Canals, &c.

661. The lengths of canals and distributaries that were in operation at the end of the year were:—Canals for irrigation and Navigation, 204¾ miles, canals for irrigation only, 75 miles, and distributaries and minor channels 1,132¾ miles.

There was an increase of 9¾ miles in the length of distributaries and minor channels.

Rainfall.

662. The average rainfall of the recording stations during the year was 46·91 inches against 75·85 inches in the previous year. The rainfall was much below the normal, and was not well distributed in the Bhadrak subdivision which led to the renewal of a large area, the leases of which lapsed at the beginning of the year.

Irrigation.

663. The area irrigated during the year was 201,498 acres against 203,540 acres in the preceding year. The cash realizations on account of water-rates during the year were Rs. 2,39,035 against the demand of Rs. 2,45,253. Rupees 77 were remitted and the balance at the end of the year was Rs. 6,141.

Financial Results.

664. The navigation receipts were Rs. 78,153 against Rs. 90,485 in 1900-1901. The traffic is steadily diminishing owing to the railway competition. The revenue and working expenses (direct and indirect) of the canals for the year were Rs. 3,47,782 and Rs. 4,25,620, respectively, the result being a deficit of Rs. 77,838 against a deficit of Rs. 43,806 in the year preceding.

Under "Extensions and improvements" several small works, mostly minor channels from distributaries, were carried out. The vents of the sluices at the south end of the Mahanadi anicut have all been provided with falling shutters, except one, which has been left for the purpose of draining the floor above, when necessary. Two tahsil offices at Ramessur and Chundanpore in the Brahmini-Byturni Division were nearly completed while materials were being collected for a combined post and telegraph office at Alba. The canals were

closed from the 15th March to the 14th June 1901, when opportunity was taken advantage of to thoroughly clear the bed of the first reach of the Taldanda Canal, especially in the first three miles, which were much choked with silt.

665. The expenditure on embankments was Rs. 83,124 against Rs. 65,686 in the preceding year. A revised classification of the embankments was approved in Bengal Government letter No. 405I., dated 4th March 1902. Agricultural Works.

666. The year was an uneventful one. There were only ordinary floods in the Mahanadi, and a fairly high flood in the Brahmini. The floods in the Byturni were low. A small cyclonic storm passed along the coast in November, which caused little or no damage. The rainfall was below the average, and was not well distributed for agricultural purposes. In the Balasore district unirrigated crops are reported to have suffered considerably. A good many crops in the Puri district were saved by irrigation, through embankment sluices in August and October. General.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

Major Irrigation Works.

MIDNAPORE CANAL.

667. The original Capital Account of the Midnapore Canal is closed. Under "43—Minor Works and Navigation," a sum of Rs. 1,522 was spent in the work of constructing permanent outlets to improve the water-distribution. The total Capital expenditure (direct charges) on the canal to the end of the year was Rs. 82,90,288. Capital Account.

668. The lengths of the canal and distributaries in operation were:— Canal for irrigation and navigation, 72 miles, distributaries, 283·97 miles, and village channels, 29·95 miles. Lengths of Canal, &c.

The lengths of the canal and distributaries are the same as last year, but there was a slight increase in the aggregate length of village channels.

669. The rainfall registered at Midnapore and Panchkura was:— Rainfall.

	1901-1902. Inches.	Average of previous 10 years. Inches.
Midnapore	58·44	56·29
Panchkura	53·60	54·41

670. The total area irrigated by this canal during the year under review was 82,134, as compared with 80,330 acres in the previous year. The area irrigated was in excess of the normal and reached the maximum area for which long leases are granted. The demand for irrigation was successfully met in October 1901, when the rains were scanty. The crops on the irrigated area were good throughout, except on the low lands, where the rice crops suffered some damage from the heavy rains in November 1901. A re-arrangement of the boundaries of the irrigation blocks and a re-adjustment of outlets were made with the object of effecting economy in the distribution of water. The cash realizations on account of water-rates were Rs. 1,24,786 against the demand of Rs. 1,25,270. The amount remitted being Rs. 244, the balance at end of the year was Rs. 240. Irrigation.

671. The navigation receipts were Rs. 89,835 against Rs. 97,730 in the preceding year. The proximity of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway has caused a considerable decrease in the traffic on the canal, specially low rates being charged by the railway for freight between Calcutta and Midnapore with the object presumably of successfully competing with the canal. The revenue and working expenses (direct and indirect) of the canal for the year 1901-1902 were Rs. 2,40,606 and Rs. 1,71,537, respectively, resulting in a profit of Rs. 69,069, which is better than that of the previous year by Rs. 8,098. The increase in the net revenue is chiefly due to the fact that dredging in the tidal reach of the canal is no longer necessary, as the steamer service has ceased to run. Financial Results.

HIJILI TIDAL CANAL.

672. The original Capital Account of this canal is closed. There was a minus outlay of Rs. 88 during the year. The total Capital outlay (direct charges) now stands at Rs. 25,51,641. The canal consists of two ranges aggregating 29 Financial Results.

miles in length. It was open for traffic throughout the year. The navigation receipts were Rs. 45,909 against Rs. 45,472 in the preceding year. The receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) were Rs. 47,925 and Rs. 29,955, respectively, against Rs. 47,348 and Rs. 32,076 of the preceding year. The result was a net revenue of Rs. 17,970 against Rs. 15,272 in 1900-1901.

Floods.

673. The floods of the year were higher than those of the previous year, but they did no damage to the canal. The cyclone of the 25th and 26th November which brought up a storm-wave, damaged the Doro embankment in two places. Retired lines are now under construction at these places.

MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION.

Orissa Coast Canal.

674. There was no expenditure chargeable to Capital account during the year. The total Capital outlay (direct charges) on this canal to end of the year 1901-1902 is Rs. 43,72,764. The length of the canal is 129¾ miles, including 4 miles of the Rasulpur river from Kalinagar to Bhaitghur, and 6¾ miles of canalized Surpai from Masagaon to Contai. The navigation receipts were Rs. 44,296 against Rs. 48,683 in the preceding year. The receipts from tolls on this canal have been steadily decreasing. This is ascribed partly to the depression in the rice trade and partly to the proximity of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. The receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) were Rs. 47,646 and Rs. 55,593, respectively, resulting in a deficit of Rs. 7,947 against a deficit of Rs. 6,655 in the previous year.

Calcutta and Eastern Canals.

675. The expenditure under the head of capital account was confined to the work of improving the Madaripur Bhil route. Two estimates were sanctioned during the year, one amounting to Rs. 1,01,491 for widening the channel, the other amounting to Rs. 2,25,000 for deepening it. The work was in full progress at the close of the year, and the actual expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,22,696 for works only. The Capital outlay (direct charges) for and up to the end of the year 1901-1902 was Rs. 1,44,766 and Rs. 67,04,050, respectively. The aggregate length of channels opened for navigation is 735 miles. The navigation receipts were Rs. 3,72,804 against Rs. 4,09,294 in the preceding year. The decrease in the gross receipts was due chiefly to bad rice crops and partly to the general depression in trade. The number of steamers and flats using the Sundarbans route was nearly the same as in the previous year. Regarding the goods carried on the canals there was a marked decrease in rice, salt, lime, coal and empty boats. On the other hand, there was an increase in jute, firewood and kerosine oil. In the year under review the net revenue was Rs. 1,20,336, the working expenses being Rs. 2,65,049 against the receipts of Rs. 3,85,385. In 1900-1901 the net revenue was Rs. 1,60,483, being the difference between receipts (Rs. 4,25,416) and working expenses (Rs. 2,64,933).

Nadia Rivers.

676. The approximate lengths of rivers comprised in the Nadia Rivers system are 472½ miles, as detailed below:—

Bhagirathi river	...	157½ miles	to Nadia.
Bhairab-Jalangi	...	146 do.	ditto.
Mathabhanga river	...	137 do.	to the junction of the Hooghly river.
Hooghly river	...	32 do.	from Nadia to Chakdaha.

No Capital account of these rivers is kept.

The receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) for the year 1901-1902 were Rs. 86,177 and Rs. 1,09,862, respectively, against Rs. 1,00,823 and Rs. 1,28,729 in the preceding year. The navigation receipts were Rs. 86,285, against Rs. 1,00,802 in the preceding year. In the Bhairab-Jalangi a channel 50 feet wide with 2 feet 6 inches of water was maintained up to the end of February. A scheme for improving the channel of the Bhagirathi, so as to make it navigable for steamers all the year round, is now under consideration.

Gaighata and Baxi Khal.

677. The length of this khal remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 7½ miles. The cost of maintaining it amounted to Rs. 334 as compared with Rs. 127 in the previous year.

Eden Canal.

678. The total length of the Eden Canal, including the canalized rivers, is 45⅙ miles. The receipts and working expenses for the year 1901-1902 were Rs. 28,838 and Rs. 42,379, respectively, against Rs. 27,220 and Rs. 38,949 in the previous year. The area irrigated during the year was 28,141 acres, against

26,789 acres in the preceding year. The cash realizations on account of water-rates were Rs. 27,806, against the demand of Rs. 36,827, a sum of Rs. 199 was remitted: so the balance at the end of the year was Rs. 8,822.

679. The drainage works carried out under the provisions of the Drainage Act VI (B.C.) of 1880, the works carried out by Government otherwise than under the provisions of the Drainage Act, and the embankments are described in the Embankment and Drainage Report. Agricultural Works.

SONE CIRCLE.

Major Irrigation Works.

680. The original Capital account of the Sone Canals is closed. Under "43.—Minor Works and Navigation," a number of permanent outlets were made, and an additional escape to the Bhojpur distributary was completed during the year at a total cost of Rs. 5,021. The total Capital outlay for direct charges to the end of 1901-1902 stands at Rs. 2,58,24,169. Capital Account.

681. The lengths of canals and distributaries in operation at the close of the year were as follow:— Lengths of Canals, &c.

Heads.	Canal System.			Total.
	Eastern Sone.	Arrah.	Buxar.	
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Canals for Irrigation and Navigation ...	86¼	74½	57¾	218½
Canals for Irrigation only	...	71¼	77½	148¾
Distributaries	338	470¼	409	1,217¼

The lengths remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 1,584½ miles.

682. The average rainfall registered at twelve stations was 26·55 inches as compared with an average of 38·16 inches in the previous year. There was a brisk demand for canal water during the rice-transplanting season and the *hathiya*, the rainfall during those periods being deficient. The rainfall during the *rabi* season was short, and a large area was leased. Rainfall.

683. The area irrigated during the year under review was 557,494 acres, against 432,413 acres in the previous year. The area irrigated in 1901-1902 is now the maximum on record, the previous maximum being 555,156 acres in 1896-97. The cash realizations on account of water-rates amounted to Rs. 10,69,080, against the demand of Rs. 10,70,935. The remission for the year being Rs. 1,274, the balance at the end of the year was Rs. 581. Irrigation.

684. The navigation receipts during the year were Rs. 23,595, against Rs. 36,507 in the previous year. The Moghulserai-Gaya line continues to attract more and more the traffic that formerly was sent along the canals. The greatest falling-off has been on the Buxar Canal, where the steamer traffic had to be abandoned. The receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) were Rs. 11,36,593 and Rs. 5,96,460, respectively, against Rs. 11,10,586 and Rs. 6,24,411 in the previous year. There were no closures of the canals during the year for repairs. The expenditure under Extensions and Improvements was incurred on (1) closing the remaining 8 vents of the centre sluices of the Dehri anicut, (2) altering Dehri under-sluices let-go-gear, (3) a self-acting alarm bell on, and alterations to, let-go-gear of the Dehri head sluices, (4) permanent outlets, syphons, and culverts on distributaries, and (5) alterations to irrigation buildings. The maintenance charges were for repairs of the ordinary character; no special or extensive damage occurred to any of the works. Financial Results.

685. The results of the flushing operations were most successful in both the Eastern and Western main canals, a considerable decrease of silt having occurred in the 1st and 2nd miles of the former and in the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th miles of the latter. The deposits continue to be mainly sand, coarser at the head than in the miles lower down. These deposits do not interfere with the capacity of the canals, as discharges above any previously recorded maxima were run during Silt Clearance and Dredging.

the year in both these canals, viz., 2,129 cusecs on the Eastern Main and 4,391 cusecs on the Western Main canal.

The following table shows the economy effected by the flushing system introduced after March 1895 during the quinquennial period ending March 1900 and the two previous quinquennial periods, also the expenditure during the years 1901 and 1902:—

Period.	Cost of silt clearance.		Repairs to dredging plant.	Total cash expenditure.	Interest on capital cost of plant.	Grand Total.
	By hand.	By dredger.				
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Average annual charge for 5 years ending March 1890 ...	22,397	65,241	13,709	1,01,347	19,609	1,20,956
Ditto March 1895 ...	37,075	59,499	13,680	1,10,254	20,507	1,30,781
Ditto March 1900 ...	3,841	11,147	3,697	18,685	21,892	40,577
Expenditure in 1900-1901 ...	6,683	8,891	3,668	19,242	20,232	39,474
Ditto in 1901-1902 ...	1,145	5,340	3,772	10,257	20,232	30,489

GANDAK CIRCLE.

Administrative Changes.

686. The only change that has taken place under this head is the formation of six subdivisions in the Champaran Division, from 1st October 1901, instead of three as originally sanctioned. The increase in the number of subdivisions is due to works on the Tribeni Canal Project.

FAMINE RELIEF AND INSURANCE.

Tribeni and Dhaka Canals.

687. The works in this circle coming under this head are the Tribeni and Dhaka Canal Projects. A sum of Rs. 2,86,896 was spent during the year, out of which Rs. 49,570 were paid in England. The net expenditure in India, therefore, amounted to Rs. 2,37,326, of which Rs. 81,839 were spent on the Dhaka Canal and Rs. 1,55,487 on the Tribeni Canal. On the Tribeni Canal the expenditure was incurred in the manufacture of bricks, collection of materials and purchase of tools and plant. Portions of the canal in the 2nd, 4th, 5th and 9th miles were excavated. On the Dhaka Canal the excavation of the main canal and Seeraha branch, and half that of Patahi branch, was completed. The head sluice and weir on the Lalbakye river were half completed, and bricks were manufactured for the regulators, bridges, &c., on the Seeraha and Patahi branches. The subordinates' quarters at Dhaka and at the Head works were completed, and the Inspection Bungalow at Dhaka commenced.

MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION.

Saran Canals.

688. The only works under this head are the Saran Canals, 19 miles in length, which had practically remained closed since 1897. Owing to the failure of the *hathiya* rains in September and October 1901 the canals were opened under the orders of Government, to supply water free of cost for *rabi* irrigation. An estimate amounting to Rs. 2,235 was sanctioned to cover the cost of opening and working the canal. The canals remained open at the end of the year. The ordinary maintenance of the canals and their branches cost Rs. 6,746 (direct charges), against Rs. 1,741 in the preceding year, and the revenue derived from them amounted to Rs. 1,108, against Rs. 669 of the previous year.

Madhuban Canal.

689. The only work of this class in this circle is the Madhuban Canal, 6¼ miles in length, in the Champaran district, on which no water-rates are leviable. It irrigated about 5,387 acres, principally *kharif* and poppy, against 1,830 acres irrigated in the previous year. The increase was due to scanty rainfall. The area is only approximate, as no measurement was made, and the figures were obtained by enquiry from the cultivators. The canal was maintained in good order at a cost of Rs. 4,587 against Rs. 3,718 in the previous year, and the revenue derived from the sale of grass, etc., amounted to Rs. 196 only. The floods of 1901 in the Teur river were below the average and caused no special damage to the weir, except that one under-sluice gate was carried away owing to its not being opened in time during a flood.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Gross Revenue.

690. The following statement shows the gross revenue (*i.e.*, the total of Imperial, Provincial, and Local Revenues) for 1901-1902 as compared with those of 1900-1901:—

(The figures are in thousands.)

	1900-1901.				1901-1902.			
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Principal Heads of Revenue—								
I.—Land Revenue...	3,21,37	86,87	...	4,08,24	3,20,57	87,48	...	4,08,05
II.—Opium	6,24,56	...	...	6,24,56	6,30,83	...	...	6,30,83
III.—Salt	2,54,35	...	...	2,54,35	2,60,38	...	...	2,60,38
IV.—Stamps	46,09	1,38,26	...	1,84,35	47,51	1,42,54	...	1,90,05
V.—Excise	73,24	73,24	...	1,46,48	75,13	75,13	...	1,50,26
VI.—Provincial Rates	...	47,43	49,24	96,67	...	48,18	49,57	97,75
VII.—Customs	1,78,39	2,69	...	1,81,08	1,83,04	2,65	...	1,85,69
VIII.—Assessed Taxes	26,38	26,38	...	52,76	28,26	28,26	...	56,52
IX.—Forests	6,17	6,17	...	12,34	6,46	6,46	...	12,92
X.—Registration	7,66	7,66	...	15,32	8,35	8,35	...	16,70
Total ...	15,38,21	3,88,70	49,24	19,76,15	15,60,53	3,99,05	49,57	20,09,15
XII.—Interest	14,62	3,20	48	18,30	14,82	3,31	43	18,56
Post-office, Telegraph, and Mint—								
XIII.—Post-office	...	...	14	14	...	...	12	12
Receipts by Civil Department—								
XVI.—Law and Justice—								
Courts of Law	...	7,94	...	7,94	...	8,02	...	8,02
Jails	...	13,69	...	13,69	...	13,69	...	13,69
XVII.—Police	...	2,09	8,81	10,90	...	1,69	9,47	11,16
XVIII.—Marine	...	12,93	...	12,93	...	12,58	...	12,58
XIX.—Education	...	7,07	66	7,73	...	7,05	79	7,84
XX.—Medical	...	2,11	35	2,46	...	2,08	49	2,57
XXI.—Scientific and other Minor Departments	...	2,75	27	3,02	...	2,76	23	2,99
Total ...	...	48,58	10,09	58,67	...	47,87	10,98	58,85
Miscellaneous—								
XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation	1,47	63	...	2,10	1,52	71	...	2,23
XXIII.—Stationery and Printing ...	70	1,53	...	2,23	1,08	1,39	1	2,48
XXV.—Miscellaneous	42	7,97	2,15	10,54	53	11,53	2,14	14,20
Total ...	2,59	10,13	2,15	14,87	3,13	13,63	2,15	18,91
State Railways—Gross receipts... ...	2,68,91	...	...	2,68,91	2,85,49	...	...	2,85,49
Irrigation—								
XXIX.—Major Works (direct receipts)	...	18,06	...	18,06	...	17,77	...	17,77
XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation	...	7,47	15	7,62	...	6,76	17	6,93
Total ...	...	25,53	15	25,68	...	24,53	17	24,70
Buildings and Roads—								
XXXI.—Military Works	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1
XXXII.—Civil Works	...	4,83	5,77	10,60	1	4,87	5,64	10,52
Total ...	1	4,83	5,77	10,61	2	4,87	5,64	10,53
Contributions	...	64	14,19	14,83	...	2,45	12,20	14,65
GRAND TOTAL ...	18,24,34	4,81,61	82,21	23,88,16	18,63,99	4,95,71	81,26	24,40,96

The chief variations are explained in the sections on Imperial and Provincial Finance.

Imperial Revenue and Finance.

691. The following statement shows Imperial Receipts in 1901-1902 as compared with those of 1900-1901:—

MAJOR HEADS.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Land Revenue...	3,21,37,304	3,20,57,334	...	79,970
II.—Opium	6,24,56,059	6,30,83,496	6,27,437	...
III.—Salt...	2,54,35,094	2,60,37,624	6,02,530	...
IV.—Stamps	46,08,707	47,51,390	1,42,683	...
V.—Excise	73,24,179	75,12,849	1,88,670	...
VII.—Customs	1,78,39,003	1,83,04,023	4,65,020	...
VIII.—Assessed Taxes	26,38,179	28,25,846	1,87,667	...
IX.—Forest	6,16,670	6,46,118	29,448	...
X.—Registration	7,65,790	8,34,832	69,042	...
XII.—Interest	14,62,269	14,82,157	19,888	...
XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation ...	1,47,055	1,52,191	5,136	...
XXIII.—Stationery and Printing	69,992	1,08,143	38,151	...
XXV.—Miscellaneous	42,090	52,839	10,749	...
Total ...	15,55,42,391	15,78,48,842	23,86,421	79,970

The increases shown in the above table are severally accounted for by the following main causes:—*Opium*—Sale at a higher average price; *Salt*—Larger sales of Lake salt owing to reduction in prices; *Stamps*—Increase in the number of Civil and Revenue suits and enhanced duty on perpetual leases; *Excise*—Better settlements and increased consumption of *ganja*; *Customs*—Expansion of the import trade; *Assessed Taxes*—Better collections in Calcutta due to prosperous conditions of trade; *Registration*—Growing popularity of registration; *Interest*—Adjustment in the accounts for 1900-1901 of an erroneous credit in the preceding year on account of interest on overdrawn capital of Railway Companies; *Stationery and Printing*—Larger sales of stationery to State Railways; *Miscellaneous*—Larger recoveries of percentages chargeable on European stores for Provincial and Local Funds.

The decrease under *Land Revenue* was mainly due to smaller recoveries of survey and settlement charges in Behar which amounted to Rs. 4,24,060 in 1901-1902 against Rs. 6,69,859 in 1900-1901.

Statement showing Imperial Expenditure in 1901-1902 as compared with that of 1900-1901.

Major Heads.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
1. Refunds and Drawbacks	6,20,282	6,43,302	23,020	...
2. Assignments and Compensations	1,19,144	1,29,978	10,834	...
3. Land Revenue	6,48,878	5,46,581	...	1,02,297
4. Opium	2,67,23,782	2,40,62,998	...	26,60,784
5. Salt	2,57,936	2,84,716	26,780	...
6. Stamps	1,86,277	1,80,463	...	5,814
7. Excise	3,41,512	3,42,672	1,160	...
10. Assessed Taxes	95,621	1,00,858	5,237	...
11. Forest	2,85,403	3,28,565	43,162	...
12. Registration	4,52,592	4,70,635	18,043	...
14. Interest on other Obligations	62,895	71,787	8,892	...
18. General Administration	2,76,702	2,77,501	799	...
23. Ecclesiastical	1,95,920	2,11,010	15,090	...
25. Political	24,505	25,576	1,071	...
26. Scientific and other Minor Departments ...	1,00,238	3,09,870	2,09,632	...
27. Territorial and Political Pensions	10,85,002	10,52,391	...	32,611
28. Civil Furlough	...	261	261	...
29. Superannuation	52,487	49,544	...	2,943
30. Stationery and Printing	23,19,026	25,83,536	2,64,510	...
32. Miscellaneous	60,707	52,033	...	8,674
Total ...	3,39,08,909	3,17,24,277	6,28,491	28,13,123

The principal increases and decreases are explained mainly by the causes noted below:—*Refunds and Drawbacks*—Special payment to Maharani Beni Pershad Kunwar of Dumraon; *Assignment and Compensation*—Payments of arrears; *Salt*—Larger expenditure on establishment; *Registration*—Payment of larger commission to the Rural Sub-Registrars, owing to the expansion of the operations of the Department; *Interest on other Obligations*—Larger payments of interest on deposit in State Railway Provident Institutions; *Ecclesiastical*—Transfer of two senior chaplains of the Church of England from other Provinces; *Scientific and other Minor Departments*—Larger outlay on Census operations; *Stationery and Printing*—Larger purchases on account of the China Expeditionary Force and Census; *Land Revenue*—Smaller outlay on Bihar settlement operations; *Opium*—Smaller payments to cultivators owing to smaller outturn of crop in both the Agencies; *Territorial and Political Pensions*—Smaller payments to the Oudh and Nizamut families owing to the lapse of certain pensions; *Miscellaneous*—Smaller remittance charges.

Land Revenue.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for 1901-1902.]

Demand and Collections.

692. The total number of estates in the three classes of (I) permanently-settled estates, (II) temporarily-settled estates, and (III) estates held direct by Government, was 187,747. The number of estates increased during the year by 1,157 in class I (from 173,337 to 173,494) and by 46 in class III (from 2,939 to 2,985), against a decrease of 39 in class II (from 10,307 to 10,268), the net increase being thus 1,164 estates.

The total demand and collection of land revenue (including Malikana, revenue of Police lands and quit-rents of Tributary Mahals) exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 1,91,119 and Rs. 3,24,668, respectively, while the percentage of total collections on total demand and of current collections on current demand were the best of the quinquennial period. The total balances at the close of the year were also the lowest during the period. The total amount of land revenue collected and the percentage of total collections on current demand were surpassed in the year 1899-1900 only. The results of the year's collections were thus very satisfactory, and they were so in all Divisions.

The current demand from estates in class I was Rs. 3,23,27,156 as compared with Rs. 3,23,25,463 in the previous year; from estates in class II Rs. 35,36,321 as against Rs. 34,87,529 in 1900-1901, and from estates in class III Rs. 42,26,561 as against Rs. 41,85,407 in the preceding year.

The increase in classes II and III is due to new settlements, re-settlements, progressive increase of revenue, enhanced receipts from the Orphangunge market in the 24-Parganas, and the bringing of the Sahebganj town khas mahal, for the first time, on the revenue-roll of the Sonthal Parganas.

The arrear demand was Rs. 13,74,531, against Rs. 12,75,051 in the previous year. The current collections of land revenue and the percentage of collections during the year rose from Rs. 3,88,94,482 and 97·24 to Rs. 3,91,20,384 and 97·58, respectively. Of the arrear demand of Rs. 13,74,531, a sum of Rs. 9,67,035, or 70·35 per cent., was collected, against 68·09 per cent. collected in the previous year. The total collections of Rs. 4,00,87,419 amounted to 96·98 per cent. on the total demand of Rs. 4,14,64,569, against 96·33 per cent. in the previous year. The percentage of total collections on the current demand increased from 99·41 in 1900-1901 to 99·99 in the year under report. The total collections and the remissions together amounted to Rs. 4,02,34,805, or 97·03 per cent. on the total demand, while the corresponding percentages for the years 1899-1900 and 1900-1901 were 96·92 and 96·76 per cent., respectively.

693. The remissions during the year amounted to Rs. 1,47,386. Of this sum Rs. 9,068 relate to estates in class I, Rs. 4,651 to estates in class II and Rs. 1,33,667 to estates in class III. Rupees 82,975 and Rs. 29,673 were remissions of grace and of right, respectively, and Rs. 34,738 nominal remissions, the decrease under each head being Rs. 230, Rs. 6,819 and Rs. 19,745, respectively, as compared with the corresponding figures of the previous year. **Remissions.**

The remissions of grace were due to death, desertion, or poverty of raiyats, failure of crops, and diluvion and deterioration of soil chiefly in Government estates. Under this head there were large remissions in the 24-Parganas (Rs. 27,931), Chittagong (Rs. 21,074), Puri (Rs. 13,421) and Shahabad (Rs. 6,639).

Remissions of right which were largest in Faridpur (Rs. 7,424) were chiefly due, as usual, to such causes as diluvion, the release of estates to private zamindars and the acquisition of lands for public purposes.

Nominal remissions, which were largest in Gaya (Rs. 10,133) and Chittagong (Rs. 6,675), were mainly due to erroneous assessment of lands, mistakes in accounts, and non-settlement of relinquished holdings. In Gaya they were granted owing to poor crops on lands (*bhaoli*) for which produce-rents are paid, and in Chittagong to erroneous assessments.

694. The current and arrear balances at the close of the year were Rs. 9,50,899 and Rs. 2,78,865, showing a decrease of Rs. 98,690 and Rs. 8,065, respectively, as compared with the corresponding figures of the preceding year. The total balances thus amounted to Rs. 12,29,764, or 2·96 per cent. on the total demand, against 3·23 and 3·07 of the two preceding years. If the amounts collected but not credited during the year, and the amounts held in suspense, are taken into account, the real balance comes to Rs. 8,67,650, or 2·09 per cent. on the total demand. Of the total balances at the close of the year Rs. 10,55,824 were under recovery, and Rs. 1,73,940 were classed as doubtful and irrecoverable. The total balances under each class of estates were:— **Balances.**

Class I Rs. 3,75,724; class II Rs. 1,44,653 and class III Rs. 1,09,387, the percentages on the total demand being 1·15, 3·81 and 14·11, respectively.

Canal Revenue.

See under Chapter 'Irrigation,' pages 257—262.

Sources of Revenue other than Land.

CUSTOMS.

[Report on the Administration of the Customs Department in the Bengal Presidency for 1901-1902; Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Section XXXIII, Merchandise Marks.]

Foreign Trade.

695. The revenue realised in the past year from Customs duties amounted to 414 lakhs, representing an increase of 2 per cent. and giving the highest total collections recorded. If the proceeds on *salt* imported into Calcutta but paid into district treasuries for clearances from inland bonded warehouses amounting to over 30 lakhs be added, the total revenue becomes 444½ lakhs, equivalent to an increase of 3 per cent. Deducting refunds and drawbacks (which amounted to 4·77 lakhs, as compared with 4·70 lakhs in the previous year), the net revenue was 440 lakhs, giving an improvement of 3 per cent.

The revenue under Schedule III of the Tariff was 254 lakhs and represents 61·4 per cent. of the total trade. Of this amount 233 lakhs accrued from *salt* and 21 lakhs from *liquors*. Under Schedule IV, *oils* account for 6·2 per cent. of revenue, equivalent to 25½ lakhs, whilst *metals* contributed 3·7 per cent. *Cotton goods* represent a percentage of 12·4; while *articles of food and drink* have given 3 per cent. of revenue, of which *sugar* provided 2·2 per cent. The receipts from countervailing duties on *sugar* show an increase of 5 lakhs in the past year, producing as much as 12 lakhs or 2·9 per cent. of the total revenue, as compared with about 7 lakhs in the previous year and 2 lakhs in 1899-1900. Fourteen-and-a-half lakhs were derived from exports of *rice and paddy*, equivalent to 3·5 per cent. of the whole, as against 4·8 per cent. in the previous year. No other articles have contributed more than 1 per cent. to the Customs revenue of Calcutta.

The Excise duty on *local cotton manufactures* expanded in the past year by 16·3 per cent. The collections were Rs. 5,863, as against Rs. 5,038 in the previous year.

In the past year the total amount of revenue repaid to importers, either by refund or drawback, was Rs. 4,77,355, as compared with Rs. 4,70,453 in the previous year. Of this amount Rs. 2,12,808 represents refund of duty on *salt*. As much as Rs. 1,01,632 is due to refund of the difference between the specific and *ad valorem* duty payable on *arms*. This represents 50·4 per cent. of the total revenue collected on *arms and ammunition* which, in the past year, amounted to Rs. 2,01,457. A further sum of Rs. 43,837 represents refund of countervailing duty on *sugar*, caused by the adjustment from time to time of these duties. These three heads—*salt*, *arms* and countervailing duties on *sugar*—account for 75·1 per cent. of the total amount repaid. Drawback amounted to Rs. 17,440.

Receipts and charges.

696. The receipts of the Custom House, Calcutta, have again improved from Rs. 4,10,30,786 to Rs. 4,18,78,338, or by nearly 8½ lakhs, equivalent to 2·06 per cent., the revenue heads being over 8½ lakhs better while miscellaneous heads have slightly declined. Disbursements have fallen from Rs. 14,38,101 to Rs. 14,10,328, a decrease of Rs. 27,773, or by 1·9 per cent.

The net income of the Custom House, Calcutta, amounted to Rs. 4,04,68,009 against Rs. 3,95,92,685 in the previous year, equivalent to an increase of Rs. 8,75,324, or 2·2 per cent. The revenue derived from Customs duties more than accounts for this advance. If, however, the payment of Rs. 30,22,992 into District Treasuries on account of salt transferred from bond at Calcutta to inland bonded warehouses be added to this, the net revenue is further enhanced to Rs. 4,34,91,001, as compared with Rs. 4,21,80,461, or an increase of 3·3 per cent.

The aggregate receipts of the subordinate ports in Bengal amounted to Rs. 21,87,474, and the disbursements to Rs. 74,412. The net income, therefore, amounted to Rs. 21,13,062, equivalent to an increase over the

net income of the previous year of 5·2 per cent. The greater part of this advance in the revenue was contributed by Narayanganj, where the increase was due to a greater activity in the clearances of salt from private warehouses.

Cases adjudged under the Sea Customs Act.

697. The number of cases has again slightly decreased, being 413 as compared with 440 in the previous year. The extra duty realized amounted to Rs. 6,015, as against Rs. 11,461-13 in 1900-1901, the average per case being Rs. 14-9 as compared with Rs. 26-1 in the preceding year.

The total amount of the penalties imposed rose from Rs. 1,604 to Rs. 5,448-7. The increase is attributed to several heavy penalties having been inflicted in some cases of deliberate undervaluation or misdescription, and to the penalties imposed in connection with 11 seizures of opium. The majority of offences, however, were against the provisions of section 36 of the Act, and, in most instances, were the results of carelessness on the part of importers, clerks and sircars. There was no diminution of vigilance on the part of the appraisers in protecting the revenue. The principal detections in misdeclarations of value, descriptions, or quantities affecting duty were in piece-goods 40, hardware and cutlery 38, and general goods 145. There were 46 detections of goods in excess. Other cases detected by the appraising staff comprise the usual miscellaneous misdescriptions affecting the rate of duty. No goods were taken over by Government under section 32. There were 13 seizures by the Preventive Department, 11 of which were of smuggled opium as against 6 opium seizures in the previous year. Since 1900 facilities for opium smuggling have diminished, as the export of rice, with which it was generally carried, is now practically confined to three shipping firms—Messrs. Ralli Brothers, the Calcutta Landing and Shipping Company, Ld., and the British India Steam Navigation Company, Ld., who take 90 per cent. of the trade between them, and the shipments of the last-named are, in addition, tested and controlled at the shipping ghats by Preventive Officers. This change in the trade has reduced opportunities for smuggling considerably. In the previous year opium seizures by the Preventive Department were not shown in the figures. There were two seizures of miscellaneous goods by officers of the Wharf Department.

Cases dealt with under the Indian Merchandise Marks Act.

698. The number of cases under this Act fell from 569 to 311, and penalties were imposed in 226 cases. The decrease is mainly due to the figure in the previous year having been abnormal in respect of 322 cases connected with cotton under-shirts, of which in the past year there were only ten. Under clause (*d*) there were 122, clause (*e*) 52, and clause (*f*) 137 cases. All of the cases were disposed of by the Collector of Customs, and the penalties imposed amounted to Rs. 6,256, as against Rs. 6,364 in the previous year. His decision was appealed against in one case only, and upheld.

There were eight appeals to the Board of Revenue against the orders of the Collector of Customs. Two were under the Tariff Act, one under the Indian Merchandise Marks Act, and the remainder under the Sea Customs Act. In all but one case the decision of the Collector of Customs was upheld.

Miscellaneous matters.

699. The number of Customs documents dealt with during the past year decreased by 1,226. There were 106,954 import bills of entry, against 104,853 in the preceding year, and 81,005 shipping bills, as against 85,287 in 1900-1901. Warehousing bills for bonded salt increased by 1,044, and clearance passes for salt from bond by 1,102. Other documents remained stationary. The amount of *Stamp duties* realized was Rs. 22,375-8, against Rs. 22,472 in the preceding year.

OPIUM.

[Report on the Administration of the Opium Department for 1900-1901*; Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Section IV.]

Climatic conditions.

700. The season was again an unfavourable one in both Agencies. Excessive rain in January injured the young plant and a severe storm of hail in March caused much damage, with the result that the average outturn per bigha

* For the year 1st September 1900 to 31st August 1901.

fell by some 10 and 3 chitaks in Bihar and Benares, respectively. The exceptional run of ill-luck that has for the past few seasons pursued the cultivation of poppy has, necessarily, made it an unpopular crop with the cultivator. The Opium Agents point out that the revival of sugar cultivation, if successful, is likely to still further affect the cultivation of opium.

Cultivation.

701. The year under review shows a general decrease in both Agencies of the areas which the raiyats engaged to cultivate. The long-term settlements in the Tirhut Sub-Agency were taken advantage of to obtain loans free of interest, and the abolition of them resulted, as was anticipated last year, in a very considerable decrease in the area engaged for. The decrease in other Sub-Agencies, except in Cawnpore, is not ascribed to any want of energy on the part of the officers in charge of the Sub-Agencies, but is due especially to the poor yields of recent unfavourable seasons and the substitution of less speculative crops. Under the high prices which have prevailed wheat has proved nearly as remunerative, and the tillage is much less laborious. Ill-luck appears to have attended the experiment to grow opium as an auxiliary crop to indigo, but it is trusted that this will not debar further experiment.

The net cultivation excluding failures from all sources was in Bihar 338,400 bighas, and in Benares 614,026. These figures show a falling off in the case of Bihar of 9,547, and in the case of Benares of 18,942 bighas. Similarly there was a decrease in the produce at 70° consistence of 3,071 maunds in Bihar, and 9,071 maunds in Benares.

In Bihar there was a decrease in the area of the land actually sown as compared with that engaged for of 3,804 bighas, while in Benares the decrease was 1,184 bighas. In Bihar the non-fulfilment of engagements appears to have occurred chiefly in Bettiah, Hazaribagh and Patna which, between them, account for 85 per cent. of the area lost. For the Benares Agency it is reported that the eastern divisions, as a rule, measure below their settlement figures, while those in the west and in Oudh measure more or less above them. The Sirsa and Benares subdivisions are both mentioned as showing results (—13 and —7 per cent., respectively), which throw doubt on the soundness of the settlements.

The average outturn per bigha in Bihar was seers 2-13-2 in the year under report, as compared with seers 3-3-3 in 1899-1900 and seers 3-8-3 in 1898-99. In Chapra and Patna only was there an increase in the average produce. All other Sub-Agencies returned a decrease. The average ranged from seers 3-11-1 in Tirhut and Aliganj to seers 1-14-2 in Bettiah. In the Benares Agency the average outturn of opium per bigha fell from seers 4-10-2 to seers 4-7-2 during the year under report. All the divisions except Ghazipur, Azamgarh, Gorakhpur, Fatehgarh, Mainpuri, Budaon and Lucknow showed a decrease. The average ranged from seers 6-1-3 in Fategarh to seers 2-7-1 in Mirzapur. These results were due to the unfavourable conditions of the year.

Check-measurements by Gazetted Officers.

702. In the Bihar Agency the number of plots test-measured in 1900-1901 was 51,123, as compared with 38,546 in 1899-1900, and the number of raiyats concerned 22,596 against 15,962. The number of cases in which it was found that the raiyats had not cultivated opium, or had only made a pretence of doing so, was 797 as compared with 519 in the preceding year, the percentage of such cases on the number of raiyats whose lands were check-measured being 3·53 and 3·25, respectively, or practically the same in the two years. In the Benares Agency 97,291 plots with a total area of 40,978 bighas, belonging to 57,402 raiyats, were check-measured by gazetted officers during the season against 103,370 plots belonging to 60,736 raiyats in the preceding year. The average number of plots tested by each officer has risen from 1,676 during the previous season to 2,323 in Bihar, and fallen from 2,153 to 2,027 in Benares.

Irrigation and wells.

703. Out of a total cultivation of 338,400 bighas, exclusive of failures, in the Bihar Agency 283,293, or 84 per cent., were irrigated and 55,107, or 16 per cent., unirrigated, the corresponding percentages for the previous year being 82 and 18. In the Benares Agency 5,88,846 bighas were irrigated and 25,180 bighas unirrigated, the percentage being 96 and 4, respectively, or the same as in the preceding year. The total area irrigated was slightly less than in the previous year in the Bihar Agency and showed a decrease of nearly 20,000 bighas in the Benares Agency, which appears to be partly attributable to

the unusual rainfall during the cold season. The decrease might, indeed, have been much larger but for the habit of the cultivator, who usually irrigates his poppy, to do so even when irrigation can be dispensed with.

Rupees 16,508 were advanced during the year for the construction of wells in Bihar and Rs. 23,959 in Benares. In the former agency of the Rs. 20,053 outstanding on the 31st August 1900 and the amount advanced during the year, Rs. 15,628 were recovered by the 31st August. In the Benares Agency out of a total similar demand of Rs. 49,094, Rs. 13,924 were recovered during the year.

In the Bihar Agency 175 masonry wells were constructed and 93 repaired during the year, 5 were under construction and 9 were under repair, and 522 earthen wells were dug. The figures for masonry wells constructed and repaired show a small increase on those of the previous year; but there has been a very marked decrease in earthen wells, of which 2,103 were dug during 1899-1900. Of this decrease no explanation has been furnished. The total amount advanced (Rs. 16,508) was much the same as in the preceding year. There was also little variation in the total outstanding balances on the 31st August 1901—Rs. 20,933. Little progress has been made in extending irrigation in the Tirhut Sub-Agency, although the sum advanced there during the year (Rs. 912) was more than in that preceding (Rs. 240).

In the Benares Agency 273 masonry and 341 earthen wells were constructed, 120 wells were repaired and the construction or repair of 929 others was commenced. The sums advanced for irrigation in this Agency have increased from Rs. 12,084 in 1898-99 to Rs. 23,959 in 1900-1901. The balance outstanding on the 31st August 1901 was Rs. 35,170.

During the year amended rules were passed by which advances up to Rs. 100 can be sanctioned on personal security by the local officers without previous sanction. The conditions for repayment have also been made more favourable. These changes will, it is hoped, cause an extension in the construction of wells, in respect to which much yet remains to be done.

Outturn and sales.

704. The total outturn of provision opium during the year was 44,457 chests. In addition there were 21,846 chests, the balance of the previous year's crop, available for sale in 1902. The opium sales during the twelve months comprised 32,206 chests manufactured in 1898-99, and 14,594 chests manufactured in 1899-1900, in all 46,800 chests, of which 22,800 chests were of Bihar and 24,000 of Benares opium. The average price obtained for Bihar opium was Rs. 1,371 per chest, and for Benares opium Rs. 1,372. As compared with 1899-1900 the average prices of Bihar and Benares opium for the twelve months under notice were greater by Rs. 59 and Rs. 82 per chest, respectively. It is reported that the disturbances in China had the temporary effect of diminishing the local cultivation, and of throwing difficulties in the way of bringing in supplies from the interior with the result that the demand for Indian opium increased. From June 1901 onwards, however, there has been a steady decline in the combined prices of Bihar and Benares opium.

Consistence of the season's opium.

705. The average consistence of the opium received in the Patna Factory from the Bihar Agency was in round numbers 73° in the year under report, against 75° in the preceding year—a fall of two degrees, contributed to by the produce of all the Sub-Agencies. In addition to this the opium received from the Benares Agency was of such exceptionally low consistence (4·33° below that of the previous year) that it was impossible, with the very low average consistence of the total quantity of opium at the disposal of the Factory, to cake at the Patna standard of 75° consistence, and special arrangements had to be made to overcome the consequent difficulties in manufacture. Caking was finally completed at 71° and 72° consistence.

As regards the Benares Agency, the opium of the previous year is said to have averaged a consistence of 69·41°, and just enabled the Department to carry the manufacture through at the standard of 71°. In the past year the average was only 65·80°, or the lowest on record. Weighments were delayed as much as possible, to allow the consistence to rise in the cultivator's pots, but no possible delay could have raised it to the normal standard.

Packing of Opium.

706. In the Bihar Agency the use of bags for the transport of opium of the first and second classes was again found to give very satisfactory results. It is probable that opium of the other lower classes also may ultimately be conveyed

by this method, but the matter is one for further experiment. In Benares the use of bags was extended during the year to the *awal* and higher classes, and it was hoped that about 25,000 maunds of the produce would be thus conveyed to the factory. The low consistence of the season, however, prevented the use of bags, except for a small fraction of that quantity, and modified orders were issued to extend their use to *doem* opium as well. In spite of this the quantity of opium that could be sent in bags was only about 14,500 maunds, the rest of the produce being conveyed, as usual, in jars. So far as bags were used, the experience gained confirms that of the Patna Agency as to their utility. They are reported to be more easily handled, more easily packed and more easily stored.

Expenditure.

707. The expenditure of the year in the Bihar Agency was Rs. 70,74,785 as compared with Rs. 77,85,053 in the preceding year. In the Benares Agency expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,69,47,646, showing a net decrease of Rs. 21,78,235. The average cost of opium per maund to Government was in the Bihar Agency Rs. 281-6-9, as compared with Rs. 275-15-5 in 1899—1900, and the average cost per chest Rs. 494-7-10, as compared with Rs. 460-0-4 in the preceding year. Similarly in the Benares Agency the cost per maund increased from Rs. 261-14-5 to Rs. 264-15-10, and the cost per chest from Rs. 456-14-5 to Rs. 465-6-1. The rise in cost in both Agencies is due to the smaller outturn.

Working of the Patna Saw Mills.

708. The total number of chests both provision and abkari turned out by the saw mills at Patna was 60,064. There was no change in the materials used for chests or compartments, and the average cost of turning out a mango-wood chest with compartments during the year was Rs. 2-4-10, or an anna less than in the preceding year.

Breaches of the Opium Laws.

709. In Bengal the number of cases investigated was 629 as compared with 600 in the preceding year, and 662 persons were brought to trial (excluding nine persons, cases against whom were pending at the close of the year), of whom 584 were convicted, as compared with 619 persons brought to trial and 538 convicted during 1899-1900. The amount of fines imposed was Rs. 22,689, of which Rs. 12,375 were realized, as compared with fines amounting to Rs. 14,802 imposed and Rs. 9,903 realized in the preceding year. Since the number of cases during the year under report was not materially greater than in that preceding, the average fine imposed would appear to have been considerably larger.

In the United Provinces the number of cases investigated was 748, against 537 in the previous year; while the number of persons brought to trial rose from 682 to 861, and the number convicted from 535 to 721 during the year under report. The number acquitted was 140 against 147 in the previous year. Cases were, therefore, both more numerous and more successful.

The amount of fines imposed was Rs. 11,405 against Rs. 7,682 in the previous year, and Rs. 7,852 were realized and Rs. 1,257 remitted on appeal.

Institution of a Provident Fund for Gazetted officers of the Opium Department.

710. During the year the Secretary of State's sanction was conveyed by the Government of India to the institution of a Provident Fund for Gazetted officers of the Opium Department. Under the rules laid down for the conduct of the Fund, the following officers are required to subscribe:—

(*a*) All European and Eurasian officers to be appointed in the future, whether married or unmarried.

(*b*) All European and Eurasian *married* officers already in the service, excepting those especially exempted by the Local Government on production of satisfactory evidence that their families are adequately secured against want.

(*c*) All European and Eurasian officers at present in the service and now unmarried, on their marrying, except as provided in (*b*) above.

European and Eurasian officers other than those required to subscribe as above and native officers have the option of subscribing to the Fund.

Rules regulating the pay and position of officers of the Opium Department.

711. Under the rules of 1900 regulating the strength, position and promotion of gazetted officers of the Opium Department, the promotion of probationers was not dependent on the passing of the departmental examinations, and the only penalty on failure to pass the departmental examination within two years was liability to removal from the Opium Department. To

provide a stimulus to passing the departmental examination, it has been ruled that any probationer who does not pass his departmental examinations within two years from the date of his appointment, is liable to be superseded, or to have his name removed from the list of probationers, and that a probationer who has fully passed his departmental examinations and is well reported on, but for whom no vacancy in the sanctioned cadre has occurred, shall draw a personal pay of Rs. 170 a month.

SALT.

[Report on the Administration of the Salt Department in Bengal for 1901-1902; Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Section III.]

Administration.

712. In January 1902 the district of Howrah, which with Noakhali had been brought within the scope of preventive operations in March 1901, was added to the charge of the Assistant Commissioner of Salt. No active measures have as yet been taken in Noakhali, but enquiries will shortly be made with a view to operations being started.

In accordance with the Government of India's order the saltpetre refineries in Calcutta and its environs were brought under the control of the Commissioner of Excise and Salt, Bengal, with effect from the 1st July 1901.

In Khulna preventive operations, which in the previous year had been confined to the Kaliganj thana, were extended to thanas Asasuni, Paikgacha and Baitaghata. In Chittagong three Sub-Inspectors' ranges covering the salt areas of the district, with head-quarters at Sitakund, Cox's Bazar, and Teknaf, were formed with effect from October 1901, and the salt staff was reinforced by the addition of three Sub-Inspectors, four petty officers, and 26 peons from Orissa.

The salt factory at Gurubai in the district of Puri was abolished in March 1902, and that at Tua after the close of the year under report, in May. The step had been previously decided upon and action was delayed only until the existing stocks of salt had been disposed of. As a consequence, the circle sub-treasury at Satpara, which was opened during the Madras administration for the convenience of traders dealing in Lake salt, was closed with effect from the 1st April 1902. A suggestion that the manufacture of salt in Orissa under the excise or licensed system might be revived was considered by Government during the year and finally held to be impracticable.

Stocks and Issues.

713. At the commencement of the year stocks had fallen abnormally low; the quantity of salt in all the *golas*, both public and private, amounted to a little over 13 lakhs of maunds only, or nearly 18½ lakhs of maunds less than in the preceding year. The importations during the year were, however, unusually large, and totalled nearly one crore and 34 lakhs of maunds. Since the year 1898-99 there has been no local manufacture of salt. The sales amounted to over one crore and 9½ lakhs of maunds, and after allowing for wastage, the closing balance stood at 36,18,964 maunds. In addition, at the close of the year, there were 2,06,049 maunds of salt lying afloat in ships in the port of Calcutta ready to be sold direct to purchasers, against 1,63,267 maunds at the close of 1900-1901. At Chittagong 57,169 maunds of salt were lying afloat for discharge into bond at the close of the year.

The Collector of Customs, Calcutta, reports that the importations for the year and the quantity bonded were the highest on record. The increase in the importations was due to freight being cheap and plentiful in comparison with the previous year. Steamers have almost entirely superseded sailing ships in the general trade of Calcutta and in the salt trade in particular, and as it is always necessary for a steamer to obtain a quick despatch, a very large proportion of the salt imported was delivered into bond. In consequence, the accommodation at both the Sulkea and Kidderpore *golas* was rapidly filled up, and much difficulty was experienced in providing the bonding space required by the trade. Proposals for increased space for storage at Sulkea have been submitted.

Imports.

714. The importations into Calcutta advanced during the year by 49·5 per cent. The major portion still comes from the United Kingdom, though its former more extensive monopoly is being encroached upon by other competitors.

The imports from Aden and the Red Sea are increasing rapidly, and as these salts do not have to pay the Canal dues, they compete on favourable terms with salt imported from Europe. Salt was imported for the first time from Port Said, of similar quality to the *karkatch* salts from Aden and the Red Sea, but as the steamers importing it have to pay the Canal dues, the Collector of Customs doubts whether it will be able to compete with the other *karkatch* salts.

The importations into Chittagong show an advance of 70 per cent. compared with those in the preceding year. No reason has been assigned for this increase, but it is believed that, as in Calcutta, it was largely due to freight being easily and cheaply procurable.

Sales of imported salt from shipboard and bond.

715. The total quantity of imported salt sold increased by 1·4 per cent. Of this 32 per cent. was sold from shipboard and 68 per cent. from bond. The corresponding proportions in the preceding year were 27 and 73 per cent. In Calcutta although sales from the importing vessel direct increased by 18·9 per cent. there was a decrease of 10 per cent. in the sales from bond. The increase in the total sales at Narayanganj and Jhalakati is noticeable, amounting to as much as 18 and 71 per cent. respectively.

Transactions in Sulkea and Kidderpore Dock golas.

716. The transactions in the Sulkea and Kidderpore dock *golas* for the past year were the highest ever recorded. The total turnover at the Sulkea *golas* was 99,70,762 maunds against 81,09,104 maunds in the preceding year. At the Dock *golas* it was 49,81,369 maunds against 39,95,239 maunds.

Inland bonded warehouses.

717. Licenses were issued for three additional private warehouses, and twenty-one warehouses in all were open at the close of the year, eight being at Narayanganj in the Dacca district and seven at Jhalakati in the Backergunge district.

The quantity of salt despatched to these inland bonded warehouses from shipboard and from bond in Calcutta amounted to 13,53,091 maunds, as compared with 10,43,871 maunds in 1900-1901, an increase of over 29 per cent. The preceding year had shown an increase of 25 per cent. as compared with 1899-1900, and it would seem that this branch of the salt trade is steadily and rapidly growing in popularity. The quantity of non-duty-paid salt removed during the year from shipboard at Chittagong for clearance at Narayanganj shows an increase of 3,505 maunds, or over 25 per cent., as compared with the preceding year, but this was far from compensating for the very large falling-off during 1900-1901.

Inland transport of salt.

718. Of the duty-paid salt conveyed by the various means of transport from Calcutta inland, as well as to Orissa, during the past year, 24,87,009 maunds were conveyed by boats, 10,66,190 maunds by steamers and flats, and 64,41,580 maunds by rail.

The quantity carried by boat decreased by 4·9 per cent., and that sent by steamers by 11·7 per cent. The quantity conveyed by rail, however, increased by 16·62 per cent. Of the aggregate quantity despatched from Calcutta, 24·8 per cent. was conveyed by boats, 10·6 per cent. by steamers and flats, and 64·4 per cent. by rail, as against 27·9, 12·9, and 59·07, respectively, during the preceding year. It would appear that the railways are steadily attracting the traffic to the detriment of other means of transport. The opening of a pass station at Shalimar in February 1902, since when it is possible to convey salt to Orissa by the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, will increase this tendency.

Stocks and issues of locally made salt.

719. There was no manufacture of salt during the year on the Chilka Lake in Orissa. The total quantity of salt in hand at the Tua and Gurubai factories at the beginning of the year was 3,16,944 maunds inclusive of a wastage of 3,530 maunds remaining to be written off at the close of the previous year. To this have to be added 54 maunds of salt found in excess in a heap at the Gurubai factory, making the total stock 3,16,998 maunds. Of this quantity, 2,25,116 maunds were sold (1,31,654 maunds for consumption in Puri, 91,968 maunds in Cuttack, and 1,494 maunds outside the Province), against 84,687 maunds in the previous year; 21,320 maunds were written off as wastage, leaving a balance of 70,562 maunds at the close of the year. Deducting from this balance a further wastage of 13,017 maunds, which remained to be written off, the actual balance stood at 57,545 maunds. This was finally disposed of by the 23rd May 1902. The largely increased sales were due to the reduction of the wholesale price to half-an-anna a maund, which was done with the object of effecting an early clearance of the stocks in hand.

720. The importsof Madras *karkatch* and refined salt into Orissa from the different factories amounted to 6,90,989 maunds, against 6,92,918 maunds in the preceding year, showing a decrease of 1,929 maunds, or ·2 per cent. The factories at Surla and Karasa showed an aggregate increase of 160,270 maunds, while those at Ganjam, Naupada, Jaganniakpur, Coconada, and other places exhibited a total decline of 1,62,199 maunds, resulting in a net decrease of 1,929 maunds. **Imports of Madras salt into Orissa.**

The result is, perhaps, due to circumstances of temporary application only. The imports into the districts of Cuttack and Balasore showed an aggregated advance of 103,815 maunds, and it was the decrease of 1,05,744 maunds imported into Puri and the Tributary Mahals which more than counterbalanced what would otherwise have been a large increase. In Cuttack it is said that foreign imported salt has been driven from the market, and the results in Puri are mainly due to the abnormally low price at which the old stocks of Lake salt were offered to the public. The decrease in the Tributary Mahals is not easily accounted for. The Commissioner of Salt suggests that a portion of the increased supplies to the district of Cuttack found their way into the Tributary Mahals; there had also been a large increase in the importations into the latter area during the preceding year, and it is possible that there were old stocks in hand.

721. The total quantity of salt which passed into consumption in the entire Province of Bengal during the year under review was 1,04,31,438 maunds. This is exclusive of 5,45,011 maunds, being the net exports by land, and inclusive of 17,974 maunds educed from saltpetre. The figures show an increase of 2,03,937 maunds, or 1·9 per cent. Of the total quantity the saliferous tracts (including the whole of Orissa) took 19,54,457 maunds, or about 19 per cent., and the rest of the Province 84,76,981 maunds, or 81 per cent. The consumption per head in the saliferous tracts works out to a little over 6 seers, or 12·34lbs. approximately, and in the rest of the Province to 5 seers and 3 chittaks, or 10·67lbs. The figures are at best approximate only; in the first place they assume that the unconsumed stocks of the previous year, which were consumed during that under report, were equal to the balance in hand at the end of the year under review. Again, it is assumed that the salt is consumed in the district to which it is registered as despatched. In the saliferous districts, in which illicit manufacture is easy, it would certainly have appeared probable that the recorded consumption of licit salt per head of the population would have been less than elsewhere. The figures, however, convey the opposite impression, but it is to be borne in mind that the arrangements for the record of consumption within the salt law limits are more complete than in the districts outside them. **Consumption in Bengal.**

722. In most of the districts, as in the previous year, prices advanced during the year under report. There was a very marked rise in the price recorded at Darjeeling and special enquiry will be made as to the reason. Prices ruled lowest at Puri. The average wholesale price for the whole Province was Rs. 3-12-9 per maund, as compared with Rs. 3-11-7 in 1900-1901, showing a rise of one anna and two pies. Except in Pabna and Cuttack, the average price of salt per maund in the principal provincial bazars was generally higher than in the preceding year. The average for the twelve marts for which figures are quoted was Rs. 3-11-9 per maund against Rs. 3-10-4 in 1900-1901, showing an increase of one anna and five pies per maund. **Prices of salt in Bengal generally.**

The average wholesale price of Liverpool salt per hundred maunds as sold from the ship's side in the port of Calcutta, exclusive of duty, amounted to Rs. 69-11-5, as compared with Rs. 70-3-1 in 1900-1901, showing a decrease of only seven annas and eight pies. Considering the rise last year from Rs. 62-4-11, the fall is insignificant, and in view of the large importations it might have been expected that prices would have declined still further. It is also noticeable that the extension of the inland bonded warehouse system does not so far appear to have had much effect in cheapening salt in the interior of the Province. The selling price of Liverpool salt per hundred maunds, exclusive of duty, which in 1900-1901 varied from Rs. 77-12-4 to Rs. 60-1-10 ranged in the year under report from Rs. 70-5-8 to Rs. 57-4-6.

723. Preventive operations outside Orissa were carried on as before, in the districts of the 24-Parganas, Midnapore, Khulna, Backergunge, and Chittagong. In Midnapore, the retention of the temporary staff has been extended for an additional period of three years. The district of Howrah was **Preventive operations in the saliferous districts outside Orissa.**

brought tentatively within the scope of operations, and a small party from the Tamluk circle, in the district of Midnapore, was sent in January 1902 to work in the Syampur and Ulubaria thanas of the Howrah district. The experience of the past two seasons having shown that illicit manufacture does not prevail to any appreciable extent in the district of Backergunge, preventive operations there have been discontinued since the close of the year. The preventive staff has been disbanded, with the exception of the Inspector whom it is proposed to depute to Noakhali to ascertain and report on the steps to be taken and the establishment required, in order to commence preventive operations in that district during the next working season.

Attachments, releases, and confiscations in the saliferous districts, including Orissa.

724. The number of cases in which salt was attached, released, and confiscated during the year under review was 929, 12, and 908, respectively, as against 1,074, 2, and 968 in the previous year, the corresponding quantities of salt being 684, 546 and 150 maunds against 640, 45, and 548 maunds in the year 1900-1901. There was thus an increase of 44 maunds, or 6·8 per cent., in the quantity attached, and a decrease of 398 maunds, or 72·6 per cent., in the quantity confiscated. On an average about 29½ seers of salt were attached and 6½ seers confiscated in each case, as against 24 seers and 22⅔ seers, respectively, in 1900-1901.

Number of seizures and unsuccessful searches.

725. The number of seizures and unsuccessful house-searches during the year under review were 1491 and 42, respectively, as against 794 and 17 in the previous year. There were no unsuccessful house-searches in the districts of Puri and Khulna, while in the districts of the 24-Parganas, Midnapore, and Chittagong the number of failures was insignificant in comparison with the number of seizures effected. In the districts of Balasore and Cuttack the numbers were 20 and 14, respectively; the owners of the houses are said to have learned of the intended search and to have destroyed all illicit articles. The general percentage of unsuccessful house-searches to seizures exhibits a slight increase, having risen from 2·14 in the previous year to 2·81 in the year under report. In the year 1899-1900 however, it was as much as 4·1.

Number of cases instituted under Acts VII (B.C.) of 1864 and XII of 1882.

726. There were 1,238 prosecutions during the year under review, against 898 in the previous year: out of 1,405 persons arrested and brought to trial, 1,174 were convicted, showing a percentage of 83. Cases of illicit manufacture of salt (section 9, Act XII of 1882) numbered 953, and were most numerous in the districts of the 24-Parganas (351), Chittagong (179), Balasore (141) and Puri (106). The proportion of persons convicted of this offence was 80 per cent. of those brought to trial. In the districts of Chittagong and the 24-Parganas the increase is attributed to greater activity on the part of the salt officers, to the provision of a steam-launch in the 24-Parganas, and to the strengthening of the salt force in Chittagong, which was for the first time employed throughout the year. There were no cases of possession of spontaneous or swamp salt during the year. Owing to the failure of the police to attend house-searches, about 50 cases in the 24-Parganas and 42 cases in Midnapore are reported to have broken down. To prevent a repetition of these fiascos, the sanction of Government has been obtained to the appointment of nine special police head-constables in Midnapore. Similar arrangements in the 24-Parganas are under the consideration of the Salt Commissioner. Salt officers were instrumental in the detection of 39 opium cases also as compared with 37 in the preceding year. No cases under the Excise Act were reported by them.

Fines, forfeitures, and rewards.

727. The fines and forfeitures realised during the year amounting to Rs. 9,703 and Rs. 10,169 were disbursed as rewards, as compared with Rs. 5,649 and Rs. 4,585 realised and disbursed during 1900-1901.

Receipts and charges.

728. The financial results of the year, as compared with 1900-1901, show an increase of Rs. 5,83,954, or 2·3 per cent. in the receipts and an increase of Rs. 42,099, or 9·02 per cent. in the charges, giving a net revenue of Rs. 2,55,21,299, which is in excess of that obtained during 1900-1901 by Rs. 5,41,855, or 2·2 per cent. The increase in receipts occurs mainly under the two heads of Import and Excise Duties on Salt.

Trade in saltpetre.

729. The quantity of salt educed in the manufacture of saltpetre and removed from all refineries in the Province on payment of duty during the year was 17,974 maunds, as compared with 17,584 maunds similarly removed in 1900-1901. The quantity of refined saltpetre produced in the refineries in Calcutta was 50,571 maunds, as compared with 61,924 maunds, and the quantity of salt educed was 5,594 maunds, against 3,496 maunds, in 1900-1901. The

quantity of salt excised was 2,360 maunds in comparison with 4,740 maunds in the preceding year.

EXCISE.

[Report on the Administration of the Excise Department in Bengal for 1901-1902; Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Section V.]

730. The total revenue under the different heads of exciseable articles was Rs. 1,50,25,309, as against Rs. 1,46,48,409, showing an increase of Rs. 3,76,900, or 2·57 per cent. The increase was common to all but 11 districts. The largest increase (Rs. 72,554) took place in Chittagong. The increase was also considerable in Hazaribagh (Rs. 46,261), Patna (Rs. 45,392), Gaya (Rs. 39,607), Sonthal Parganas (Rs. 37,964), and Manbhum (Rs. 26,628). On the other hand the decrease was heavy in Calcutta (Rs. 84,091), Hooghly (Rs. 20,206), Cuttack (Rs. 17,508) and Balasore (Rs. 11,058). There was an increase under every head, except rum and beer. The largest increase occurred, as last year, under the head "Country spirits," being Rs. 2,54,297. *Ganja* comes next with an increase of Rs. 1,71,536, followed by opium and *tari*, which yielded an increase of Rs. 29,189 and Rs. 10,909, respectively. The increase was mainly due to favourable settlements. The largest decrease (Rs. 1,11,071) occurred under the head "Rum," which is attributed to importation of Shahjahanpur rum direct into Assam and to the competition of country and imported spirits. **Excise Revenue.**

The revenue in the Chota Nagpur Division, which under the unfavourable conditions of 1900-1901 had shown some contraction, has more than made up the ground lost, and the settlements of the current year are also very favourable.

731. Collections maintained the same satisfactory standard as in the previous year. Of the gross demand of Rs. 1,50,82,098, Rs. 1,50,25,309, or 99·6 per cent. were realised. **Collections.**

732. The settlements for 1902-1903 show an increase of some 4½ lakhs of rupees over those of 1901-1902. Of this increase, Calcutta, where the previous triennial settlement had expired, and where the new settlements showed a substantial improvement, furnished nearly 1¾ lakhs. Eleven districts show a decrease. **The current settlement.**

733. The only change during the year in the rate of still-head duty on distillery liquor was in the Arambagh subdivision of the district of Hooghly, where it was raised from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per gallon, L. P. The measure was a tentative one, adopted at the instance of the Government, and it is noticeable that there was some decrease in consumption, which is attributed to this cause. It is too early yet to judge of the wisdom of the step taken, and the future results will be carefully watched. Of the other districts in which the rates of duty had been changed in the preceding year, it is observed that in Burdwan and Murshidabad, where it had been reduced, the increased consumption of the previous year was maintained and a further small advance recorded. In Midnapore there was a noticeable decrease, but other causes seem to have operated. Both the districts of Faridpur and Backergunge, in which the rate had been raised, show a small decrease in consumption, the latter in continuation of a similar result in the previous year. The competition of cheap imported liquor is alleged to have been the cause. **Country spirit.**

In respect of the offence of illicit distillation, the district of the Sonthal Parganas stands first in the Province, and the noticeable increase in the number of persons arrested on this charge during the year (766 as against 271 during 1900-1901) formed the subject of special enquiry. The Board were of opinion that some excess of zeal had been shown in the institution of prosecutions, and that one main cause of the prevalence of illicit practices lay in the fact that the price of licit liquor was beyond the means of the ordinary consumer. The chief remedy proposed was a reduction in the license fees on the shops which it was hoped would induce a corresponding decrease in the price of liquor, and this was accepted by Government. The opening of 15 new shops in the preceding year had scarcely had the effect anticipated, although the consumption of distillery liquor exhibited some increase, and a further addition of ten was sanctioned. Some further experiments in the issue of weak liquor were also directed. The effect of these changes remains to be seen.

The second area within which the offence of illicit distillation occasions constant trouble is the Burdwan Division. From the figures of persons arrested it would seem that there was some diminution in this particular breach of the law, but the numbers arrested for smuggling outstill liquor increased from 30 to 59. Both offences recur with frequency in certain well-known localities, and the deterrent effect of the punishments which can be inflicted under the present law would seem to be small. There was also a serious instance of resistance to the police, indicative of the obstructive attitude of the villagers generally. There was a decrease in the number of persons arrested for illicit distillation in the district of Bankura, from 49 during the preceding year to 14. Illicit distillation is common in Angul and the Khondmals, where 36 persons were arrested on this account during the year.

The smuggling of liquor into Jalpaiguri from Bhutan and Cooch Behar continued, and, in fact, showed some increase: the appointment of a special preventive staff may have a good effect. Similarly, the smuggling into Darjeeling of liquor from Sikkim and Nepal would appear to be on the increase.

Country rum.

734. The explanations of the fluctuations in the consumption of country rum have always been a matter of some doubt. In the year 1899-1900 the amount of rum consumed rose by 3,191 gallons, L. P., and a review of the figures since 1892-93, when the duty was first enhanced to Rs. 5 per gallon, L. P., led to the conclusion that that change, followed by the further increase of duty to Rs. 6 per gallon, had affected the trade. It was apprehended that German white spirits might have successfully competed. During the year 1900-1901 the consumption further increased by some 1,752 gallons, L. P., and the greater popularity of rum and cheap imported liquors, in comparison with country liquor, was adduced as a reason. It was also thought possible that more rum from Shahjahanpur to Assam was being despatched *vid* Calcutta instead of by the direct route. In the year at present under review there has been a net decrease in consumption of 18,467 gallons, L. P., which effectually obliterates the two small items of increase recorded in the two preceding years. The Commissioner of Excise expresses the opinion that owing to the enhancement of duty in 1898 country spirit now successfully competes with rum, a view directly opposed to that held last year, and to the fact that exportations from Calcutta to mufassal districts increased. Moreover, the consumption of distillery liquor in Calcutta decreased in comparison with the previous year. The Superintendent of Excise Revenue, Calcutta, apprehends that Shahjahanpur rum is now sent in greater quantities to Assam direct; he also represents the difficulties in the way of any satisfactory conclusion. The figures of exportations from Calcutta to Assam certainly show a decrease, though not nearly equal to the total decline in the consumption.

Imported liquor.

735. In the absence of statistics as to the consumption of imported liquor in the different districts of Bengal only general conclusions can be drawn as to the spread of a taste for these liquors and as to its effect on the revenue derived from other heads, noticeably that of country liquor. It is reported that the imported brands are growing in popularity more especially in the districts of Eastern Bengal, and the increase in license fees obtained in the districts of Dacca, Mymensingh and Backergunge would seem to corroborate this view. In the two former districts, the revenue from country spirits was less than in the previous year, but the high price of food-grains is also mentioned as a cause. In Dacca the importation of country rum was less, and in Mymensingh it was greater, than in the preceding year.

It is observed that the importations of German white spirit decreased from 50,521 gallons in the preceding year to 45,421 gallons. The trade in this liquor formed the subject of correspondence during the year. The conclusion arrived at by the Board was that such spirit was less noxious than was popularly supposed, and that the remedy mainly required was some control over the operation of bottling it in this country, not with the object of checking the sale of this liquor, but in order to prevent customers being deceived. This control will be given by the provisions which, with the consent of the Government of India, have been inserted in the proposed Excise Bill.

Tari.

736. The revenue from tari, Rs. 10,50,229, was in excess of that realised during the year 1899-1900, when the tree-tax system was in force. It would

not seem, therefore, that the abolition of that system has prejudicially affected the revenue, although the contrary view is held by one or two Collectors. It is to be remembered, however, that the system as understood in Madras was never introduced in Bengal.

Ganja.

737. The additional *gola* at Naugaon for the storage of *ganja* is still under construction. Thanks to a favourable season, and the cultivation of an area which, though less than in the preceding year, was considerably above the average, the outturn of *ganja* was the highest on record. The consequent fall in prices was very marked, and the consequent temptation to dispose of the crop illicitly led to a noticeable increase in the number of prosecutions. The matter of the limitation of the area to be cultivated is still under consideration.

After discussion it was decided that the distinction between small and large twigs of flat *ganja* should not be interfered with. It will probably die out from natural causes.

Under the orders of Government the supply of Rajshahi *ganja* to the Garhjat States in Orissa on the Cooch Behar system was sanctioned as a permanent arrangement, but it is noteworthy that mention is made of six important detected cases of the smuggling of Garhjat *ganja* into the district of Puri. The object of the introduction of the Cooch Behar procedure was the suppression of these malpractices.

Bhang.

738. The Commissioner of Excise is of opinion that the enhancement of the duty on *bhang* in certain districts of the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions has not affected consumption. The amount consumed showed a decrease in four out of six districts, but it was not large, and is attributed to other causes. The enhanced rates led notwithstanding to larger receipts from duty.

Opium.

739. The decision to remove all restrictions on the issue of opium to shops in certain districts, to which limits had previously been enforced as a check upon smuggling, has apparently had a curious effect upon the sales to licensed vendors. The amount so sold in Chittagong has increased by 96 maunds, while Hooghly, Calcutta and Backergunge show a decrease of 32, 29 and 13 maunds, respectively. Chandernagore only took 9 maunds, as against 42 in the preceding year. The inference is that Chittagong being more conveniently situated for access to Burma, has now become the head-quarters of the illicit trade. The preventive establishment in that district has been strengthened, but it is obvious that the exercise of special vigilance will be required.

Cocaine.

740. Under a notification of the Board the sale of cocaine has been prohibited, except under license for *bonâ fide* medicinal purposes. Preventive action is hampered by the fact that arrest without a warrant is not legal, but this will be remedied in the new Excise Bill. The number of prosecutions in Calcutta for illicit sale increased from 65 during the preceding year to 101. Judging by the prosecutions instituted, the cocaine habit has little hold outside Calcutta, but it is noticed that no cases were returned from the districts of Murshidabad, Muzaffarpur and Purnea in which the use of cocaine as an intoxicant was last year believed to prevail. Special attention will be invited to the point in these districts. The number of licenses granted for the sale of cocaine in Calcutta was 101. The number of druggists' permits for the sale of opium was only 62, and it is curious that licenses for the vend of cocaine, which are only issued to duly approved persons and firms, should have been the more numerous. It is also noticeable that in Murshidabad and Bhagalpur, in both of which districts the misuse of the drug was last year suspected, 4 and 7 licenses, respectively, were granted, a number which in comparison with other districts was large.

Arrests and convictions.

741. The number of persons arrested (4,056) shows a large increase, the figures being the highest in the five years 1897 to 1902. The increase is mainly due to an abnormal rise in the number of cases of illicit distillation in the Sonthal Parganas and to an increase in the number of *pachwai* cases in the district of Singhbhum. There was also a rise in the number of cases of smuggling of outstill liquor, illicit opium, and of offences in connection with *ganja* and foreign exciseable articles. The number of licensees prosecuted shows a gradual but steady decline. Out of 146 persons, 140 were prosecuted for breaches of conditions of their license and 6 only for offences under other sections of the Excise Act. The percentage of convictions shows a slight improvement. The number of offenders imprisoned during the year was 235 as against 159 in the previous year.

The number of arrests by Excise officers rose to 2,832, or by 903 in the year under review, while those by other officers increased to 1,224, or by 62 only. The Excise officers obtained convictions in 91·2 per cent. of the cases sent up by them, and other officers in 82·5.

Fines and rewards.

742. The amount of fines imposed and realised increased by Rs. 13,368 and Rs. 11,743, respectively, owing to the increase in the number of cases. The percentage of realizations rose from 75·8 to 77·8. The total amount distributed as rewards was Rs. 63,923, or 82 per cent. of the fines imposed, as against Rs. 50,982, or 79 per cent. in 1900-1901. Out of Rs. 63,923, Rs. 29,472, or 46·1 per cent., were paid to Excise officers, Rs. 14,885, or 23·3 per cent., to officers other than Excise officers, and Rs. 19,566, or 30·6 per cent., to informers and others. The percentage paid to informers and others shows a satisfactory increase. Rewards were generally paid promptly.

STAMPS.

[Report on the Administration of the Stamp Department during the three years ending 31st March 1902; Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Section VII.]

Stamp Revenue.

743. The revenue collected under both the Stamp and Court-fees Acts during 1901-1902 amounted to Rs. 1,90,17,932, or Rs 5,83,102 more than in 1900-1901. The increase of revenue occurred both under judicial and non-judicial stamps. The total charges during 1901-1902 amounted to Rs. 4,94,012, an increase of 2·2 per cent. over the figures of 1900-1901.

744. The sale-proceeds of court-fee stamps (excluding stamps for copies) were Rs. 1,26,52,646, or Rs. 3,08,339 above the figures of 1900-1901. The increase is mainly attributed to greater activity in the Civil Courts, and to the institution of suits of higher value in the Calcutta Small Cause Court. The enquiries held by revenue officers under section 19H (3) of the Court-fees Act VII of 1870, as amended by Act XI of 1899, resulted in further realisations, and have doubtless induced a more careful valuation by applicants for the grant of probates and letters of administration. There was an increase in the receipts from the sales of stamps for copies and of plain paper. The total receipts under the former head amounted to Rs. 7,57,815 against Rs. 6,91,462 in the previous year, and under the latter head to Rs. 27,993, or an increase of Rs. 5,788.

745. Non-judicial stamps show an increase of revenue of Rs. 1,82,112, or 3·5 per cent. The increase was shared by all classes of stamps except Foreign Bill, Share Transfer, and Notarial Stamps, and (to a trifling extent) one anna impressed stamps. The receipts from the sale of impressed stamp-paper (the most important item among non-judicial stamps) amounted to Rs. 37,43,739, against Rs. 36,03,405 in 1900-1901. The increase is attributed partly to the enhanced stamp-duty on perpetual leases under the new Stamp Act, and partly to the encouragement given to mufassal vendors by the more liberal rates of discount. The Commissioner of the Orissa Division specially draws attention to the increase since the conclusion of the settlement operations, in the number of sales and mortgages of occupancy rights, by which the stamp revenue has also profited.

746. The receipts from the sales of *hundis* or bill-of-exchange stamps were Rs. 1,32,540, or Rs. 12,407 more than in the preceding year. The largest increase occurred in Calcutta, and is attributed by the Collector to the institution of a number of criminal prosecutions in respect of unstamped *hundis* which had the result of enforcing a closer observance of the law. The increase in the sale of impressed labels, amounting to Rs. 20,724, is attributed to the payment of stamp-duty by the Solicitors of the High Court on a few mortgages and conveyance of properties of large value. The income from one anna adhesive revenue stamps continues to show satisfactory results, the receipts in 1901-1902 being Rs. 4,30,191, or 4 per cent. above those of the preceding year. The increase is mainly attributed to the use, under the new Stamp Act, of these stamps on all cheques issued by local bodies and others, irrespective of their amount. In Calcutta, however, in which the increase was largest, the result is

attributed chiefly to the stringent action taken by the authorities under section 62 of Act II of 1899 on the detection of unstamped receipts. It is probable that the provisions of the law in this respect are now well-known, and that the importance of a stamped receipt to the payer is now more fully recognised: but it is reported that Marwari traders in particular persistently evade the law when this can be done with safety.

747. Foreign bill stamps are sold chiefly in Calcutta for bills-of-exchange, cheques and promissory notes, drawn or made out of British India and chargeable with a duty of more than one anna. The receipts from this source during the past year amounted to Rs. 48,593, showing a decrease of Rs. 1,407 as compared with the results of 1900-1901. Advocate, Vakeel and Attorney stamps are supplied from the office of the Superintendent of Stamps, on indents made by the Registrar of the High Court, Calcutta. The amount of revenue realized during the year 1901-1902 was Rs. 17,750, or the same as in the preceding year.

748. Sales of share-transfer stamps, which are used for payment of stamp-duty on transfers of the shares of public companies and associations, were effected in Calcutta, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling. The revenue during 1901-1902 amounted to Rs. 33,037, which, compared with Rs. 39,534, the receipts of the year 1900-1901, shows a decrease of Rs. 6,497, or 16·4 per cent. The depression in the tea-industry is said to have led to fewer transactions in the share market. Notarial stamps are one-rupee foreign bill stamps over-printed with the word "Notarial" under rule 15 (*d*) of the Rules issued with the Notification of the Government of India, No. 786S.R., dated the 17th February 1899. They were sold in 20 out of 46 districts during 1901-1902. The sales of the year amounted to Rs. 1,711, in comparison with Rs. 1,874 realized during the previous year.

749. One anna impressed stamps are impressed in the office of the Superintendent of Stamps on skeleton forms of cheques, receipts, drafts, &c., requiring a duty of one anna under the Indian Stamp Act, II of 1899, in accordance with rule 7 of the Rules issued with the Notification of the Government of India, No. 786S.R., dated the 17th February 1899. The receipts of the year 1901-1902 from this source amounted to Rs. 83,032 against Rs. 83,045, the revenue of 1900-1901. Cheque forms of ten different kinds issued by the Accountant-General, Bengal, for the use of Incorporated Local Funds, are impressed in the office of the Superintendent of Stamps with the one anna stamp and issued to all Treasuries in Bengal. This fact, taken with the increase in the number of skeleton forms impressed for private parties, necessitated the setting up of a fourth stamping-machine with an additional establishment.

750. The total number of vendors employed in the sale of judicial and non-judicial stamps during the year was 6,755, or an increase as compared with the previous year of 97. Stamp vendors.

The increase in the rates of discount on the sale of non-judicial stamps probably encouraged applications for licenses, but the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division draws attention to the fact that the average annual income from discount enjoyed by the licenses in some districts (in one, as low as Rs. 17) would appear to indicate that licenses had been too freely given, and the results in other districts will be scrutinised with a view to ascertaining if similar conditions obtain there.

The expenditure during the past year exceeded that of the preceding year by Rs. 14,428. As compared with 1900-1901 there was a decrease of Rs. 1,425 in respect of plain paper, and an increase of Rs. 196 and Rs. 15,657 in respect of judicial and non-judicial stamps.

The rates of Rs. 4-11 and Rs. 2-9-8 per cent. allowed on certain non-judicial stamps were reduced in Calcutta to Rs. 3-2 per cent. and Re. 1-9 per cent., respectively, and Local Governments were authorized at their discretion to make the same reduction in the case of any town with a population of 50,000 inhabitants and over. The Government of Bengal, accordingly, sanctioned the extension of the reduced rates to the towns of Patna, Gaya, Chapra, Darbhanga, Dacca, Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Cuttack, and to the sadar stations of Howrah and the 24-Parganas. The lower rates were also

extended under the orders of the Government of India to portions of the suburbs adjacent to Calcutta and to the sadar station of Hooghly, in which, individually, the population fell short of 50,000 inhabitants.

There were few complaints during the year under report of difficulty or inconvenience in procuring stamps, and the sales were, on the whole, properly conducted by the licensed vendors. A few vendors were prosecuted, and the licenses of a few others cancelled.

Punitive action of the Courts and Revenue Officers.

751. Of cases in which deficient duty and penalty were levied by the Courts or by persons entitled to receive evidence under section 35, and by Collectors under sections 32, 37, 40 and 41 of Act II of 1899, the total number dealt with by the Civil Courts during the year was 1,507 in comparison with 1,442 in 1900-1901. The increase in the number of cases was insignificant, but there was an advance of Rs. 6,874 in the duty and penalty realized by the Civil Courts in comparison with the realizations of the preceding year. There was an increase of 370 in the number of cases decided, and of Rs. 7,385 in the duty and penalty realized by Revenue Officers. The increase in the number of cases may denote more careful examination of documents by Civil Courts and Revenue Officers, but possibly it was due also to ignorance on the part of the public of the changes made by the new Stamp Act.

The number of cases instituted for infringement of the provisions of the Stamp Act was 567, in which 497 persons were brought to trial against 513 cases and 511 persons in the preceding year. The fines imposed amounted to Rs. 4,047 against Rs. 5,253 in 1900-1901, while the amounts distributed in rewards were Rs. 2,647 as against Rs. 4,282.

Deficit duty.

752. The enquiries conducted in order to ascertain the correct valuation of estates have led to a steady increase of revenue in the shape of deficit duty realized. On the other hand, in some districts it has led to a preceptible increase of the work of the Collectorate. Penalties were very seldom levied and enquiries seem to have been made without unnecessary harassment of the parties. Of the cases reported during 1901-1902, 75·9 per cent. were enquired into, the corresponding percentage in the preceding year being 73·6. The proportion borne by the deficit duty realized to the amount originally paid was 8·8.

INCOME TAX.

[Report on the Financial Results of the Income-Tax Administration during the triennium ending 31st March 1902; Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Section VIII].

Revenue and incidence of the tax.

753. The receipts, charges, and net revenue of the year were, respectively, Rs. 56,56,735, Rs. 2,13,398, and Rs. 54,43,337, the net revenue showing an increase of 7·5 per cent. as compared with the preceding year.

754. The number of persons finally assessed to income-tax was in Calcutta 27,802 and in the other districts 96,254. These figures are higher by 1,568 and 3,018, respectively, than those of 1900-1901. The final demand in Calcutta was Rs. 26,48,668 against Rs. 23,52,655 in the previous year, and in the other districts Rs. 24,77,347 against Rs. 23,86,235, the percentage of increase being in assessees 3·8, and in final demand 8·2. For this increase several different general causes and some special causes are adduced. In Jalpaiguri, the opening up of the district by tea plantations; in Chittagong, the transfer to that district from Shillong of the assessment of the employés of the Assam-Bengal Railway; in Palamau, the assessment of contractors on the Barun-Daltonganj Railway; and in Calcutta, a generally prosperous trade year (noticeably in the jute and coal industries), are all alleged to have operated in bringing about an increase in the demand under the tax. Quite apart, however, from special local causes, or any special improvement in any one year in the standard of the work of those entrusted with the assessment and collection of the tax, it is obvious that the mere examination and re-examination at intervals of the same areas with a view to the discovery of new assessees must make it very difficult for any persons to escape detection, who are really liable to pay the tax, but have not done so in the past.

During the year 14 districts returned a decreased final demand, or a smaller number of assessees. The largest falling off in the demand was in Gaya (Rs. 3,313), where the prevalence of plague and a series of poor harvests affected the results.

The proportion of persons assessed to population was 1 to 600, and of persons to villages 61 to 100; the number of persons in proportion to each rupee of tax assessed was 14·5. The amount of tax realised in Calcutta was Rs. 24,94,945, and in the rest of the Province Rs. 24,38,863, as compared with Rs. 22,35,105, and Rs. 23,50,538, respectively, in 1900-1901.

The nine cities in the Province with a normal population of 50,000 and over furnished 14·6 per cent. of the total assessees, and 43·06 per cent. of the tax collected. The incidence of the tax in rural areas varied from Re. 1 to every 65 persons in the district of Cuttack to Re. 1 to every four persons in that of Darjeeling, where special circumstances obtain.

755. The incidence of the tax, according to the different rates of income, is shown in the table below:—

Class.	Rate of income.	Percentage of assessees of each class.	Percentage of collections contributed by each class.
	Rs. Rs.		
I	500, but less than 750	49·9	11·9
II	750 „ 1,000	14·8	5·5
III	1,000 „ 1,250	10·2	5·1
IV	1,250 „ 1,500	4·7	3·1
V	1,500 „ 1,750	3·5	2·9
VI	1,750 „ 2,000	3·2	3·2
VII to XV	2,000 and over	13·7	68·3

The number of persons originally assessed was 126,064 as against 121,128 in 1900-1901, and the number of petitions or objections made before District Officers, Commissioners and the Board 12,576, as compared with 11,035 in the preceding year.

The percentage of objections to assessments, for the whole Province, was 10. Cuttack shows the highest percentage (31·2), followed by Hazaribagh (20·3). The percentages were between 15 and 20 in the following districts, viz., Sonthal Parganas (18·6), Puri (18·2), Shahabad (17·7), Monghyr (16·8), Manbhum (16·8), Bhagalpur (15·9), Muzaffarpur (15·2), and Gaya (15·05). The increase of objections is usually attributed to the addition of new assessees to the list of tax-payers. In many cases the petitions of objection were filed with a view to gain time for payment, and they were sometimes the outcome of the non-production of accounts at the time of assessment. A fair proportion of the objections came from the unrevised areas, and were based on the ground that the assessees were dead or had given up their business.

Exemption and result of revision.

756. Two thousand and eight persons were exempted on revision, and Rs. 1,37,956 remitted. The percentage of exemptions on the number of persons originally assessed was 1·6, while that of remissions on the original demand was 2·6. The percentage of exemptions did not exceed 5 in any district. It was more than 3 in Cuttack (4·9), Hazaribagh (4·06), Bhagalpur (3·6), and

Chittagong (3·1). The percentage of remission was more than 5 in Cuttack only (5·5). In Hazaribagh and Bhagalpur it is reported that the original assessments were not always carefully made; in Cuttack no special explanation is offered, but stress is laid on the difficulties surrounding the work of assessment; in Chittagong failures of business outside the revised area are quoted as occasioning subsequent exemptions. In more than one district the unwillingness of the people to produce their accounts at the time of the original assessment is referred to: when this is the case the assessees have mainly themselves to thank if they are put to inconvenience by an incorrect demand upon them: moreover, the refusal to produce accounts originally raises a presumption of bad faith which requires subsequent explanation.

Collection of Income-tax.

757. The amount of the tax collected under each part of the Act during the last year was:—Part I (Salaries, pensions, annuities, and gratuities) Rs. 7,21,256, Part II (Profits of Companies) Rs. 5,57,644, Part III (Interest on securities) Rs. 73,817, Part IV (Other sources) Rs. 35,81,091. Total, Rs. 49,33,808.

The percentage of increase in the total collections on account of the tax, under all parts, for the year 1901-1902, over the collections of the previous year, was 7·6.

The gross collections, including arrears of tax, penalties, &c., amounted to Rs. 51,34,559, as compared with Rs. 47,42,594 in the year 1900-1901, showing an increase of Rs. 3,91,965, or 8·3 per cent.

The percentage of tax collected under each part on the total amount of tax collected during the year 1901-1902, was salaries, etc., 14·6, profits of companies 11·3, interest on securities 1·5, and other sources 72·6.

The percentage of collections on the final demand on account of tax alone was 96·3, as compared with 96·8 in the previous year. The percentage of collections on the final demand on account of tax, penalties, &c., both current and arrear, excluding advance payments and excess collections, was 93·5, as compared with 93·8 in the year 1900-1901. The districts of Burdwan, Birbhum, Bankura, Dacca, Tippera, Noakhali, and Darbhanga succeeded in collecting the entire demand within the year. Murshidabad and Backergunge nearly succeeded in collecting the entire demand, the percentage of collections in each of these two districts being 99·9. The prescribed standard of 95 per cent. was not reached in Hazaribagh, Bhagalpur, and Calcutta, where the percentages were 88·3, 92·3 and 94·2, respectively. In Hazaribagh and Bhagalpur the defect is attributed to delay in the disposal of objections, with the result that after orders were passed the tax could not be realised within the current year. In Calcutta the deficiency was due to the fact that assessments to the value of over a lakh and-a-quarter were made during the last three months of the year, and consequently could not be collected within it.

Outstanding balances.

758. The outstanding balance for the year was Rs. 2,84,592, made up of Rs. 2,46,366 (tax), Rs. 29,839 (penalties), and Rs. 8,387 (costs).

The sum of Rs. 2,84,592 includes balances on account of the previous years also, viz., Rs. 33,274 for the year 1900-1901 and Rs. 36,244 for 1899-1900. The amount due on account of the latter year has since been remitted. The balance on account of the year 1901-1902 alone, outstanding at the close of the year, was Rs. 2,15,074, as compared with Rs. 1,73,054, on account of the previous year. Of the total balance of Rs. 2,84,592, Calcutta alone returns a balance amounting to Rs. 2,26,386, as compared with Rs. 1,98,670 in 1900-1901. This unsatisfactory result is attributed to the fact that 733 assessments under Parts II and IV, amounting to Rs. 1,25,699, were made during the last quarter of the year for reasons which have already been given. The Collector represents that it was found impracticable, in spite of all endeavours, to complete the assessment work within the prescribed time. Of the total balance of Rs. 2,84,592, Rs. 75,640 are reported to be under realisation, the realisation of Rs. 1,44,262 is doubtful, and Rs. 64,690 are probably irrecoverable.

The demand on account of penalties and fines was Rs. 29,998, and on account of costs Rs. 12,179. Of these amounts only Rs. 11,541 and Rs. 7,769 were collected during the year, leaving balances of Rs. 18,457 and Rs. 4,410, respectively. The small collection of penalties during the year 1901-1902 is

due to short collections in proportion to the amount imposed, made in Calcutta and the districts of Dinajpur, Patna, Gaya, Bhagalpur and Manbhum. Coercive measures are not taken till towards the end of the year, and it is inevitable that some portion of the demand on this account should fail to be realised within the year.

759. The total expenditure during the year 1901-1902, including the cost of establishments in the Commissioner's and Board's offices and the remission allowed on the collection of tax by employers, amounted to Rs. 2,13,398, as compared with Rs. 1,99,759 in the year 1900-1901, showing an increase of Rs. 13,639. **Expenditure.**

The percentage of cost on the total collection, including penalties, &c., made by District Officers on account of the year 1901-1902, and excluding excess collections and advance payments was 4·3, the same as in 1900-1901. If the collections made by the Accountant-General from the salaries of Government servants and the interest on Government securities as well as the net arrear collections of previous years be included in the total collections made by District Officers on account of the year 1901-1902, the percentage of cost on the total collections would be 3·8, the same as in 1900-1901, as against 3·9 in 1899-1900.

760. No embezzlements were detected during the year. There were two cases in which assessees were prosecuted for making false statements both unsuccessfully. Two prosecutions for attemping to extort money by the personation of assessors were instituted, and convictions obtained in both cases. The income-tax assessors, with one or two exceptions, worked satisfactorily. **Miscellaneous.**

FOREST REVENUE.

[Progress Report of Forest Administration in the Lower Provinces of Bengal for 1901-1902.]

761. The receipts from forests for the forest-year 1901-1902 (1st July 1901 to 30th June 1902) were Rs. 13,00,516. The charges amounted to Rs. 6,91,365, leaving a surplus of Rs. 6,09,151.* The net income was 46·84 per cent. and the expenditure 53·16 of the gross revenue, as compared with 53·21 per cent. and 46·79 per cent. in the previous year. The figures, however, for 1901-1902 do not represent the true results of the working of the year, as the charges include an extraordinary payment of Rs. 77,578 to the Raja of Porahat, on account of the profits of the working of the Porahat forests during the five years ending 31st March 1901. The revenue has only once before been exceeded, viz., in 1896-97, when it was Rs. 13,45,982, and after making allowance for the disbursement noted above, the true financial results for the year's working show a surplus of Rs. 6,86,729, which is the highest on record.

The estimated value of produce removed free of charge was Rs. 64,659, and the loss on produce removed by privileged villagers or at reduced rates was Rs. 1,68,113. Outstandings of revenue amounted to Rs. 26,693 and were chiefly due for mica rents in the Sonthal Parganas Division, and grazing dues in Puri. Outstandings against disbursers and contractors amounted to Rs. 13,010. Comparing the financial results by Divisions, the total receipts (Rs. 6,76,157) and surplus (Rs. 5,47,851) in the Sundarbans were the highest on record. The other Divisions which returned a large surplus were Chittagong (Rs. 55,504), Sonthal Parganas and Hazaribagh (Rs. 29,195), and Buxa (Rs. 22,613). The only Divisions which returned a deficit were Direction (Rs. 46,354), Palamau (Rs. 7,354), Singhbhum (Rs. 38,051) and Angul (Rs. 5,127), and in the case of the last two the deficit shown this year is considerably less than that of the previous year.

* Receipts for the Financial year were Rs. 12,92,237 and charges Rs. 6,57,131.

Provincial and Local Finance.

762. PROVINCIAL.—The following statement shows the actual receipts and charges on account of Provincial Services for 1901-1902, as compared with those of 1900-1901:—

RECEIPTS.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.
	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance	38,18,389	42,61,612
Principal Heads of Revenue—		
I.—Land Revenue { Proper ...	1,04,86,256	1,05,50,888
I.—Land Revenue { Adjustments	—17,99,457	—18,02,602
IV.—Stamps	1,38,26,123	1,42,54,169
V.—Excise	73,24,179	75,12,849
VI.—Provincial Rates	47,42,743	48,18,263
VII.—Customs	2,68,734	2,64,584
VIII.—Assessed Taxes	26,38,179	28,25,846
IX.—Forests	6,16,669	6,46,118
X.—Registration	7,65,790	8,34,832
Total ...	3,88,69,216	3,99,04,887
XII.—Interest	3,20,185	3,30,637
Receipts by Civil Department—		
XVI.—Law and Justice—		
Courts of Law	7,94,448	8,01,684
Jails	13,68,853	13,69,922
XVII.—Police	2,08,639	1,69,387
XVIII.—Marine	12,92,828	12,58,529
XIX.—Education	7,07,265	7,04,552
XX.—Medical	2,11,487	2,07,659
XXI.—Scientific and other Minor Departments	2,74,908	2,75,966
Total ...	48,58,428	47,86,699
Miscellaneous—		
XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation	62,589	71,360
XXIII.—Stationery and Printing ...	1,52,528	1,38,822
XXV.—Miscellaneous	7,97,465	11,53,438
Total ...	10,12,582	13,63,620
Irrigation—		
XXIX.—Major Works (direct receipts)	18,06,331	17,76,911
XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation—		
By Public Works Department...	6,28,857	5,73,990
By Civil Department ...	1,18,380	1,03,063
Total ...	25,53,568	24,52,964
Buildings and Roads—		
XXXII.—Civil Works—		
By Public Works Department...	2,17,247	2,20,470
By Civil Department ...	2,65,639	2,66,598
Total ...	4,82,886	4,87,068
Contributions	64,253	2,45,320
Total ...	4,81,61,118	4,95,71,195
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,19,79,507	5,38,32,807

EXPENDITURE.	1900-1901.	1901-1902.
	Rs.	Rs.
Direct demand on the revenues—		
1. Refunds and Drawbacks ...	1,81,650	1,93,762
2. Assignments and Compensations	1,68,805	1,60,514
3. Land Revenue	38,78,704	42,46,212
6. Stamps	5,58,832	5,41,396
7. Excise	3,41,512	3,42,672
8. Provincial Rates	66,293	99,097
9. Customs	9,46,835	9,19,580
10. Assessed Taxes	95,621	1,00,858
11. Forests	2,85,403	3,28,566
12. Registration	4,52,592	4,70,635
Total ...	69,76,256	74,03,285
13. Interest on ordinary debt ...	2,20,802	2,09,494
Post Office, Telegraph and Mint—		
15. Post Office	2,811	2,787
Salaries and expenses of the Civil Department—		
18. General Administration ...	17,37,258	18,31,914
19. Law and { Courts of Law ...	91,33,042	94,02,709
19. Law and { Justice. { Jails	28,31,170	29,92,373
20. Police	60,65,369	61,90,537
21. Marine	10,13,619	10,11,637
22. Education	28,06,008	29,40,241
24. Medical	21,46,989	20,59,317
25. Political	17,027	17,998
26. Scientific and other Minor Departments	4,69,518	5,22,378
Total ...	2,62,19,991	2,69,69,104
Miscellaneous—		
29. Superannuation, &c.	23 02,075	23,88,677
30. Stationery and Printing ...	11,71,401	12,92,928
32. Miscellaneous	2,53,934	2,03,868
Total ...	37,27,410	38,83,473
Famine Relief and Insurance—		
33. Famine Relief	2,25,857	3,530
Irrigation—		
42. Major Works—		
Working expenses	11,88,577	11,32,636
Interest on debt	24,54,681	24,54,094
43. Minor Works and Navigation—		
By Public Works Department	12,97,593	13,17,386
By Civil Department	4,383	4,232
Total ...	49,45,233	49,08,348
Buildings and Roads—		
45. Civil Works—		
By Public Works Department	38,78,825	43,70,888
By Civil Department ...	1,02,183	1,20,643
Total ...	39,81,008	44,91,531
Contributions	14,18,527	12,20,547
Total ...	4,77,17,895	4,90,94,699
Closing balance	42,61,612	47,38,708
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,19,79,507	5,38,32,807
Provincial surplus (+) or deficit(—) ...	+4,43,223	+4,77,096

763. RECEIPTS.—The increase under the head *Land Revenue* occurred under Ordinary Revenue. The distribution is shown thus :—

	1900-1901.	1901-1902.
	Rs.	Rs.
Gross Land Revenue	4,08,24,103	4,08,05,560
Deduct—		
Survey recoveries (wholly Imperial) ...	6,69,859	4,24,060
12 per cent. on collections from Government estates (Provincial)	5,96,926	6,07,351
	12,66,785	10,31,411
Land Revenue divided proportionately ...	3,95,57,318	3,97,74,149
Provincial share (one-fourth) ...	98,89,330	99,43,537
Add—		
12 per cent. on collections from Government estates	5,96,926	6,07,351
Total ...	1,04,86,256	1,05,50,888

The fluctuations under the major heads *Stamps, Excise, Assessed Taxes,* and *Registration,* which are divided in fixed proportions between Imperial and Provincial, are explained in the section on Imperial Finance. The increase under *Provincial Rates* was chiefly due to a larger collection of cess as a result of revaluations in the districts of the 24-Parganas, Nadia, Dacca, Backergunge, Tippera, Noakhali, Shahabad, and Ranchi. The increase under *Interest* was the outcome of larger recoveries under loans to municipal and other public corporations, and under advances under special laws for embankments. The slight improvement under *Law and Justice, Courts of Law,* was chiefly in fees. The decrease under *Police* was due to smaller recoveries on account of the Presidency Police and of Police supplied to Railway Companies. That under *Marine* results from a smaller realization of pilotage fees at the port of Calcutta. The increase under *Superannuation* was mainly due to larger realizations of contributions from officers lent for foreign service. The decrease under *Stationery and Printing* is accounted for by smaller receipts from the sale of Gazettes and Indian Law Reports. The increase under *Miscellaneous* was mainly due to recoveries of arrears of contributions from Municipalities towards the cost of plague camps in 1899-1900 and 1900-1901, and also to larger credits for unclaimed deposits and larger receipts under fees and fines of Revenue Courts, recoveries of law charges, and sale-proceeds of Darbar presents, old stores and materials.

The falling off in the revenues under *Irrigation, Major Works,* was chiefly due to short realizations of water-rates in the Orissa Canals, and in some degree also to lower navigation receipts in the Orissa, Midnapore and Sone canals, consequent upon the opening of the Bengal-Nagpur and Mogalserai-Gaya Railways. The decrease under *Irrigation, Minor Works and Navigation,* was attributable chiefly to the falling off in the revenue of the Calcutta Canals owing to a poor crop outturn in the Sundarbans, to the diversion of boat traffic to railways, to the rapid and sudden fall at the entrance of the Bhagirathi river and to the abandonment of a portion of the Bhagirathi embankment. The increase under *Contributions from Local to Provincial* was due to recoveries of arrears of contributions from District Boards on account of their share of plague expenditure in 1899-1900 and 1900-1901.

764. EXPENDITURE.—The increase under *Refunds and Drawbacks* was due to a special payment to the Dumraon Estate, on account of land revenue paid in excess. The decrease under *Assignments and Compensations* was attributable to smaller payments of malikana. The increase under *Land Revenue* occurred chiefly under District Administration and Survey and Settlements, and in part also under management and improvement of Government estates. The de crease under *Stamps* was the result of a smaller supply of stamps from Central Stores.

The decrease under *Customs* occurred chiefly in Calcutta and was due to smaller payments of overtime and holiday fees and smaller charges for Dockyard supplies and services. The increase under *Forests* was mainly due to a special payment made to the Porahat Estate on account of profits

of the quinquennial period ending March 1901. The increase under *Registration* is accounted for by the payment of larger commission to Rural Sub-Registrars owing to the expansion of the operations of the Department. The decrease under *Interest* was the result of a smaller mean outstanding balance of the Provincial Loan Account.

The increase under *General Administration* was due chiefly to larger tour charges incurred by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. The increase under *Law and Justice, Courts of Law*, was distributed under several heads, and noticeable chiefly under those of Law officers, for larger mufassal establishments; Civil and Sessions Courts, due to the revision of the salaries of Judges; and Criminal Courts for larger expenditure under Supplies and Services and Contingencies. The increase under *Jails* was due to an increased jail population and to the prevailing high prices of food-grains. The increase under *Police* occurred under the head Superintendence where it was due to larger outgoings under privilege leave contributions and salaries, District Executive Force, Municipal, Village, and Railway Police. The increase under *Education* occurred chiefly in respect of grants-in-aid. The decrease under *Medical* was due to a smaller outlay on plague charges, while the increase under *Scientific and Other Minor Departments* was due to special grants to the Zoological Gardens and the Indigo Planters' Association, and to larger expenditure under Veterinary Charges and Cinchona Plantation consequent upon the extension of the factory plant under the Java system.

The increase under *Superannuation* was due to the continued growth of expenditure on retired allowances, and that under *Stationery and Printing* was chiefly under the heads Stationery supplied from Central Stores and Stationery Office and Government Presses. The decrease under *Miscellaneous* was due to the adjustment of a large amount in reduction of charges under Subscriptions to Periodicals on account of supplies made to the several Departments in previous years, and also to larger recoveries on account of the support of pilgrims which were adjusted in reduction of charges. There were no *Famine Relief* charges in the year, but some small adjustments were made in the accounts.

The short outlay under *Irrigation, Major Works*, was mainly due to the Irrigation Department having received more credit for transfer of establishment charges to Buildings and Roads than in the previous year. The excess charges under *Minor Works and Navigation* chiefly occurred in the Saran and Tirhut embankments. The increase under *Civil Works in charge of the Public Works Department* was under Original Works, while that under *Civil works in charge of Civil officers* is attributable to larger refunds of ferry tolls and larger grants to Municipalities. The decrease under *Contributions from Provincial to Local* was due to the adjustment of charges in connection with Public Works buildings carried out by local agency in the Public Works Department accounts instead of under this head as heretofore.

Local Finance.

[Report on Local Funds and Municipalities in Bengal for the year 1901-1902; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XVII and XVIII Local Boards.]

765. The following table shows the income, expenditure and opening and closing balances of Incorporated Local Funds for the year 1901-1902:—

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Payments.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
District Fund	29,97,519	87,96,060	1,17,93,579	87,37,142	30,56,437
District Road Fund	15,709	1,72,604	1,88,313	1,69,234	19,079
District Road Account	45,818	1,38,847	1,84,665	1,22,655	62,010
District Post Fund	4,09,893	3,05,018	7,14,911	3,60,078	3,54,833
Inland Labour Transport Fund ...	...	14,109	14,109	14,109	...
Steam Boiler Inspection Fund ...	59,416	47,048	1,06,464	40,860	65,604
Village Chaukidari Fund ...	29,532	3,18,316	3,47,848	3,06,425	41,423
Road Patrol Fund	25,082	37,056	62,138	37,507	24,631
District Chaukidari Reward Fund ...	66,162	63,812	1,29,974	52,744	77,230
Total ...	36,49,131	98,92,870	1,35,42,001	98,40,754	37,01,247

The grants made by Government to District Funds, District Road Funds and District Road Accounts during the year aggregated Rs. 12,94,858, made up as follows:—To District Funds Rs. 11,97,622, to District Road Funds Rs. 14,995 and to District Road Accounts Rs. 82,241. A loan of Rs. 17,000 was made to the District Board of Balasore for repairing the roads damaged by floods. The special grants made to District Funds to meet expenditure on account of plague were Patna Rs. 20,000, Hazaribagh Rs. 1,000 and Monghyr Rs. 1,500.

Owing to the introduction of the Cess Act of 1880, the Road Account of the Sonthal Parganas was closed on the 31st March 1902 and the unspent balance transferred to form the nucleus of the new Road Fund constituted in that district.

The total payments made in Bengal on account of the Inland Labour Transport Fund amounted to Rs. 37,314 against Rs. 14,109, the actual receipts of the Fund. The difference, Rs. 23,205, was debited to Assam.

The transactions of Excluded Local Funds were as follows:—

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Payments.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Police Funds—					
Railway Police Clothing ...	3,624	4,992	8,616	5,595	3,021
Foundling Asylum ...	39	3,419	3,458	3,434	24
Fire-Brigade	19,859	85,951	1,05,810	87,939	17,871
Calcutta and Suburban Police Superannuation ...	10,109	36,622	46,731	36,547	10,184
Total ...	33,631	1,30,984	1,64,615	1,33,515	31,100
Marine Funds—					
Hospital Port Dues, Calcutta	1,55,897	97,848	2,53,745	61,022	1,92,723
Hospital Port Dues, Chittagong	1,685	8,324	10,009	6,890	3,119
Orissa Ports	10,388	13,363	23,751	15,450	8,301
Total ...	1,67,970	1,19,535	2,87,505	83,362	2,04,143
Education Funds—					
Hindu College	392	4,752	5,144	4,399	745
Durga Charan Laha's Scholarship	...	2,427	2,427	2,427	...
Jagiara	216	1,000	1,216	1,173	43
Jadu Nath Mukerjee's Scholarship	166	...	166	...	166
Total ...	774	8,179	8,953	7,999	954
Medical and Charitable Funds—					
Pilgrims' Lodging-house ...	26,172	63,232	89,404	7,521	31,883
Cuttack Anna Chatra ...	1,381	7,603	8,984	7,640	1,344
Chuni Lal Seal's Endowment	106	4,246	4,352	4,227	125
Bengal Famine Orphan ...	2,056	904	2,960	346	2,614
Ram Lall Mukerjee's Endowment	3,325	1,746	5,071	2,000	3,071
Dum-Dum Out-door Dispensary	4	1,058	1,062	1,058	4
Chittagong General Hospital	6,928	18,648	25,576	12,218	13,358
Total ...	39,972	97,437	1,37,409	85,010	52,399
Public Works Funds—					
Darjeeling Improvement ...	28,114	64,214	92,328	52,479	39,849
Khondmal Road ...	4,753	2,529	7,282	2,984	4,298
Total ...	32,867	66,743	99,610	55,463	44,147

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Payments.	Closing balance.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Miscellaneous Funds—					
Zoological Garden ...	5,607	72,787	78,394	73,722	4,672
Mohsin Endowment ...	5,322	1,18,972	1,24,294	1,17,694	6,600
Christian Burial Board ...	10,325	16,324	26,649	20,175	6,474
Muhammadan Burial Board	939	1,697	2,636	1,571	1,065
Western Duars Market ...	9,372	14,373	23,745	16,656	7,089
Chittagong Hill Tracts Bazar	3,394	3,422	6,816	2,480	4,336
Total ...	34,959	2,27,575	2,62,534	2,32,298	30,236
Cantonment Funds—					
Alipore	35	3,133	3,168	2,507	661
Barrackpore	4,074	36,991	41,065	36,522	4,543
Cuttack	1,388	5,706	7,094	5,278	1,816
Dinapore	344	29,093	29,437	27,295	2,142
Dorunda	555	3,141	3,696	3,555	141
Dum-Dum	1,814	18,619	20,433	19,581	852
Jallapahar	530	5,657	6,187	5,584	603
Lebong	3	6,195	6,198	5,315	883
Buxa Duars	95	2,023	2,118	2,000	118
Total ...	8,838	1,10,558	1,19,396	1,07,637	11,759
Chittagong Port Fund ...	16,149	1,28,610*	1,44,759	1,26,657	18,102
Municipalities	4,85,304	28,68,607	33,53,911	28,39,891	5,14,020
Grand Total ...	8,20,464	37,58,228	45,78,692	36,71,832	9,06,860

* Includes Rs. 895 outside balance.

The three separate Port Funds of Cuttack, Puri and Balasore were amalgamated into one fund. The Durga Charan Laha's Scholarship Fund received a contribution of Rs. 653 from Provincial Revenues to meet the deficit at the close of the year, and the Chuni Lal Seal Endowment Fund received a grant of Rs. 2,500 from the same source. Rupees 2,000 were paid from Babu Ram Lal Mukerjee's Endowment Fund for the relief of the poor rendered homeless by floods in the district of Hooghly. An additional grant of Rs. 10,000 was made by Government to the Zoological Garden for the purpose of carrying out certain improvements suggested by His Excellency the Viceroy, and a similar grant to this fund was made by the Maharaja of Mymensingh for the construction of an enclosure for the recreation of carnivorous animals. The receipts of the Mohsin Endowment Fund included Rs. 10,000, being the amount placed to the credit of the fund in the quinquennial distribution of the surplus balance over the fixed annual allotment of Rs. 60,000 from the Syedpur Trust Estate. The Muhammadan Burial Board Fund received a grant of Rs. 1,697 from Government.

The Dinapore Cantonment Fund was able to repay the grant of Rs. 1,923 sanctioned in 1900-1901 from Provincial Revenues to meet emergent expenditure in connection with plague. Special contributions were made during the year by the Military Department to the following Cantonment Funds for conservancy—Alipore Rs. 2,640, Buxa Duars Rs. 1,914, Dorunda Rs. 769, Dum-Dum Rs. 3,000, Jalapahar Rs. 5,229, Lebong Rs. 5,366; for hospitals and dispensaries, Dinapore Rs. 5,715, Jalapahar Rs. 1,885.

The receipts of the Chittagong Port Fund were nearly double those of the preceding year, the increase being chiefly under the heads "Port dues," "Water-supply," "Mooring fees" and "Receipts from Jetties." The receipts included Provincial grant of Rs. 5,000 for the erection of a temporary shed adjoining the jetty.

Road and Public Works Cesses.

[Report on the Road and Public Works Cess operations of the Lower Provinces for 1901-1902.]

Rate, Land Revenue demand and gross Rental.

766. As in the preceding year, the cesses were levied at the maximum rate of one anna in the rupee in the 43 districts in which the Act is in force. The Act has been introduced in the recently re-settled estates in the Sonthal Parganas, and valuation is in progress. The current demand of land revenue in the 43 districts is Rs. 3,96,95,675, and the gross rental, or valuation, amounts to Rs. 17,03,53,369.

The current demand (Rs. 93,26,543) shows an increase of Rs. 1,41,218 over that of the previous year. This was mainly caused by revaluations in the districts of the 24-Parganas (Rs. 38,559), Nadia (Rs. 3,874), Dacca (Rs. 16,288), Backergunge (Rs. 10,725), Tippera (Rs. 12,207), Noakhali (Rs. 6,586), Shahabad (Rs. 21,722) and Ranchi (Rs. 18,730), by the assessment of coal mines and resumed *chakran* (service) lands in Burdwan, and by the valuation of *ghatwali* lands in Birbhum. The arrear demand (Rs. 16,75,523) increased by Rs. 1,219, but was Rs. 2,34,264 less than that of 1899-1900. The collections (Rs. 93,13,325) were Rs. 1,10,451 more than in the previous year. Owing to the considerable increase in the demand of the year, there was a slight decline (from 100·1 to 99·8) in the percentage of total collections on the current demand. The outstanding balance (Rs. 16,84,918) has increased by Rs. 12,970, but is less by Rs. 19,680 than that of 1899-1900. The percentage of the balance on the total demand is almost the same as in the preceding year. The remissions, which amounted to Rs. 66,873 against Rs. 70,321 in the previous year, were granted chiefly in the districts of Burdwan (Rs. 16,599), Birbhum (Rs. 3,148), Khulna (Rs. 4,509), Backergunge (Rs. 5,029), Tippera (Rs. 3,074) and Singhbhum (Rs. 16,608), and were on account of revaluations of estates under section 13 of the Cess Act, erroneous and double assessments, diluvion, revision of assessments of mines and forests, and acquisition of land for the Assam-Bengal Railway.

In 25 districts collections attained the prescribed standard of 100 per cent. on the current demand, in 7 others the per cent. exceeded 98, and in the remaining 11 varied from 97·5 to 70·3.

Working of Certificate Procedure.

767. The number of certificates filed during the year for the realisation of cess arrears was 139,613, against 127,360 in the previous year, which, with 43,399 certificates pending from 1900-1901, gave a total of 183,012 for disposal. Of these 143,355, or 78·3 per cent., were disposed of, against 75·9 in the previous year, leaving 39,657 cases pending. The increase in the number of cases filed is shared by all Divisions, except Burdwan and Orissa, and appears to be chiefly due to more vigorous action in enforcing demands. It is most marked in Gaya (6,647) and Monghyr (3,224). In Gaya the increase was due to the institution of cases punctually after each *kist*, and this has materially helped in the prompter collection of the demand. In Monghyr, also, greater punctuality and strictness prevailed in the cess office, and the increase in institutions is further explained by the fact that the number of certificates filed during 1900-1901 was much below the average of the three preceding years. The collection of cesses of rent-free lands direct by the Government, instead of through the zamindars in whose estates the lands lie, adds greatly to the number of certificates in some districts.

There was a noticeable decline in the institutions in Burdwan (1,294), Bankura (714), Jessore (506), Faridpur (1,155), Saran (1,655), Darbhanga (547) and Balasore (622). In Bankura, Faridpur and Balasore this is attributed primarily to the withholding of certificates for petty arrears which, in accordance with orders approved by the Government, are now allowed to accumulate to Rs. 5, provided that certificates must issue for any smaller sums when it is necessary to avoid their recovery being barred by limitation. No explanations have been furnished from the remaining districts. The decrease in Hazaribagh and Singhbhum is due to the issue, in the first instance, of warning post-cards immediately after the *kist*, on receipt of which many assessees paid up their dues. The use of post-card notices and the larger employment of kanungos for the collection of petty arrears in Orissa tended to reduce the number of certificates filed in that Division. The largest number of cases was instituted

in Burdwan (5,293), Midnapore (9,482), Hooghly (15,114), 24-Parganas (6,433), Chittagong (5,089), Patna (8,001), Gaya (12,216), Shahabad (8,465), Saran (8,865), Muzaffarpur (6,840), Darbhanga (5,318) and Monghyr (5,630).

The disposals exceeded the institutions in all the Divisions, except Chittagong and Bhagalpur, where, however, the number of cases filed was greater than in the preceding year. The districts in which the number of pending cases at the close of the year shows a large increase are Midnapore, Dacca, Noakhali, Gaya and Monghyr. No explanation has been furnished in regard to Midnapore, but it appears from a separate communication received from the Commissioner that the necessary temporary staff could not be employed, suitable men not being available. In Dacca the increase is attributed to a large number of institutions in the latter part of the year. The Collector reports that the file has now been greatly reduced. The deficiency in disposals in Noakhali is attributed to the filing of cases for arrears due from rent-free lands, under section 70 of the Act, in the latter part of the year. In Gaya and Monghyr the increase was due to the larger number of institutions (12,216 and 5,630, against 5,569 and 2,406, respectively, in the previous year). The largest number of pending cases in the Patna Division is in Shahabad, and this, the Commissioner says, accounts partly for the collections having fallen considerably below the standard. The pending files show material reductions in Burdwan, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Chittagong, Saran and Muzaffarpur. It is satisfactory to note that, notwithstanding the increase in the number of institutions, the number of pending cases in all the Divisions declined from 43,399 (revised figure) to 39,657, or by 3,742.

Enquiries which were made by the Board during the year, in compliance with a reference from the Government, satisfied them that the increase in certificates in recent years has not been due to general recalcitrance on the part of payers, and this conclusion has been accepted by Government. There were other causes which are being removed as far as possible. The orders already referred to, postponing the issue of certificates for small sums until they have accumulated to Rs. 5, should effect a reduction: and improvement in the work of the Land Registration and Tauzi Departments will tend to the same result. In districts where the number of proprietors of revenue-free estates and rent-free lands is large, certificates must always be numerous.

Objections against Certificates.

768. The total number of objections lodged against certificates was 11,759, against 11,621 in 1900-1901, of which 11,498 against 11,284 were disposed of. The largest number disposed of was in the districts of Burdwan (1,003), Hooghly (932), Gaya (983), Shahabad (1,731) and Saran (3,899). In 1,146 cases the certificates objected to were cancelled, the percentage increasing from 8·8 to 9·9. The result is not so favourable as in the previous year, but is better than in 1899-1900 (10·7). The number of cases in which reductions were made in the amount certified was 548 against 559. Out of 1,146 cases, in which certificates were cancelled on objection, Burdwan contributed 95, Dacca 105, Patna 142, Saran 217 and Monghyr 132. The cancellations were due to defective entries in the Record-room and Land Registration registers, death and desertion of defaulters, exemption of lands lying within Municipal limits, double assessments, and non-registration of names of holders of rent-free lands. In Monghyr the special cause was the incomplete state of the Land Registration registers, particularly in respect of the omission of the numbers of the separate accounts, which led to the entry in the certificates of the names of proprietors of residuary shares when those for separate accounts were required, and *vice versâ*.

Stage of Procedure at which demands were satisfied.

769. In 45,945 cases, against 35,618 in 1900-1901, payments were made on the mere issue of notice; in 82,956 against 57,976, on the issue of notice for sale of moveable property; and in 28,107 against 23,607, on the issue of notice for sale of immoveable property. Of the total number of sales (3,864 against 3,451) 1,493, or 38·6 per cent., were set aside under sections 20 and 21 of the Public Demands Recovery Act I (B.C.) of 1895, as amended by Act I (B.C.) of 1899, against 1,470, or 42·6 per cent., in the previous year. The highest number of sales set aside was in the districts of Patna (114), Gaya, (106), Shahabad (215), Saran (108), Muzaffarpur (148) and Darbhanga (170). No special complaint against the working of section 21 in the Patna Division has, however, been made.

770. There were valuations or re-valuations, partial or complete, in 33 out of the 44 districts (including the Sonthal Parganas) to which the Act applies. The Government has sanctioned, under section 12 of the Cess Act, the valuation of the newly-settled estates in the district of the Sonthal Parganas and the general re-valuation, pargana by pargana, of the districts of Saran and Muzaffarpur. **Valuations and Re-valuations.**

During the year general re-valuations were completed in the districts of the 24-Parganas (with the exception of rent-free lands), Bogra (with the exception of 18 estates), Purnea and Puri. The re-valuation of estates and tenures in the 24 Parganas has resulted in an increase of Rs. 87,058 (approximately), or of 41·2 per cent., on the previous assessment. In Bogra the increase obtained amounts to Rs. 14,968, or 17·9 per cent., on the former cess revenue, while in Purnea and Puri the operations have resulted in an increase of Rs. 50,183 and Rs. 2,676, or 26·5 and 3·9 per cent., respectively. The districts under complete re-valuation were Hooghly, Nadia, Khulna, Rajshahi (with the exception of 22 estates and 68 rent-free lands), Jalpaiguri (Regulation and Non-Regulation portions), Rangpur, Gaya, Shahabad, Cuttack, Balasore and Hazaribagh.

With a view to ensure that the propriety of a re-valuation in each district, after the expiry of the five years' period enjoined by law, shall be duly considered, the Board have, with the concurrence of the Government, prescribed an annual return which will show the time for which the existing valuation has been in force and give grounds for any proposals made.

771. There were 4,486 separate accounts opened during the year in revenue-paying estates, the total number of such accounts at the close of the year being 85,221, with a cess demand of Rs. 17,89,732. For revenue-free estates 107 separate accounts were opened, and the total number of such accounts at the end of the year was 1,149, with a cess demand of Rs. 41,685. Separate accounts opened during the year for revenue-paying estates were, as in the previous year, numerous in the Patna and Dacca Divisions. **Separate Accounts for Revenue-paying and Revenue-Free Estates.**

772. Revenue-paying estates increased from 2,59,765 to 2,64,526, revenue-free estates from 49,611 to 49,837, and rent-free lands from 102,341 to 1,08,848 during the year. The number of tenures also increased from 1,603,631 to 1,632,623, or by 28,992. The increase was due to the opening of separate accounts, addition of new estates, valuations and re-valuations, partitions, mutation of names and the assessment of coal-mines, resumed *chaukidari chakran* lands and rent-free lands not previously assessed. The small decrease in the number of revenue-free estates and rent-free lands in Bhagalpur was due to the cancellation of superfluous entries in the registers of revenue-free estates, to the exemption of certain estates lying within Municipal limits, and to the removal of certain rent-free lands found to lie outside the district boundaries. There was a decrease of 19,260 in the number of recorded shareholders of estates, due mainly to the fact that in Mymensingh incorrect figures had been previously reported, while mutation of names accounts for some reduction in Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga. In Cuttack the decrease (505) in the number of shareholders of tenures was due to the transfer of certain estates to Balasore. In Ranchi the decline under this head (11,668) has not been explained. **Estates and Tenures assessed to Cesses and their Shareholders.**

773. When the road cess was first assessed in 40 districts the gross rental, or valuation, of those districts was Rs. 13,11,68,432. Subsequently the districts of Khulna and Palamau were created, and the Act was extended to them and to the district of Singhbhum. The gross rental, or valuation, of the 43 districts shows an increase in the past year from Rs. 16,80,89.551 to Rs. 17,03,53,369, or of Rs. 22,63,818, which is chiefly due to re-valuation in the districts of the 24-Parganas, Nadia, Backergunge, Tippera, Shahabad and Ranchi, and to the assessment of coal-mines and resumed *chakran* (service) lands in Burdwan and the valuation of *ghatwali* lands in Birbhum. The decrease in the gross rental of Rs. 87,456 in Singhbhum from Rs. 5,08,000 to Rs. 4,20,544 is noticeable, and is due to the annual revision of the assessments of mines and forests under Chapter V of the Act and, in particular, to the exemption during the year, in accordance with the Advocate-General's opinion, of the premia paid by lessees for mining rights. **Gross Rental.**

Revision of the Cess Tauzi Establishment.

774. In connection with the revision of the Cess Tauzi Establishment in those districts in which separate establishments are maintained for the cess accounts, Government has approved the Board's proposals for the division of the establishment of muharrirs into two grades, on Rs. 20 and Rs. 25, and the appointment for every district in which four or more muharrirs are employed of a tauzi navis on a salary of Rs. 35, Rs. 40, or Rs. 50, according to the number of the *kist* accounts dealt with. These orders were given effect to from the 1st December 1901. As regards the proposed increase of the total staff of tauzi muharrirs and tauzi navises, further enquiries are being made under the orders of Government.

Municipal Revenues.

See under Chapter 'Municipal Administration,' pages 207—220.

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

Vital Statistics.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal, for 1901; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XIII.]

Vital Statistics and influence of prices upon birth and death-rates.

775. The rainfall of the year was scanty and unevenly distributed, and the agricultural outturn below the average in many districts. These conditions are, to some extent, reflected in the vital statistics, and the death-rate, though lower by 3·94 per mille than that of the year 1900, was higher by ·19 per mille than the average death-rate of the last five years, which is calculated on the Census of 1891. On the other hand, the birth-rate has improved. It was 1·63 per mille higher than in 1900, calculated on the revised figures of population; and 1·77 per mille higher than the average of the last five years, calculated on the figures of 1891. The Sanitary Commissioner, however, points out that during the year under report only 93 rural areas return a birth-rate of over 45 per mille against 107 and 247 during the two preceding years. A result he attributes to the great unhealthiness of the year 1900, and to the high prices of staple food-grains which prevailed in many districts during that year. The Census of 1901 has shown an increase of 5·1 per cent. in the population, and it appears that, in spite of famine and plague in the interval, the general health of the Province is not deteriorating.

The statistics of the past year were tested over a considerable area by the Vaccination staff, who discovered that 3,867 births and 2,240 deaths had not been reported. This amounts to a percentage of 1·2 of births and ·98 of deaths for the area tested, and shows that the reporting staff do their work fairly well.

Principal Diseases.

776. The decrease in the general death-rate was due mainly to the comparative absence of cholera. In Orissa there was a severe outbreak, which is attributed to the short rainfall of 1901. This explanation is doubtful. It would appear that want of sanitary precautions in regard to the pilgrims and at local fairs was more responsible for the outbreak, and it is mentioned that the local authorities at Puri neglected to make proper arrangements at a local fair where the disease originated.

The number of anti-cholera inoculations was smaller than in 1900, owing to the smaller volume of emigration. The results, however, so far as recorded, were satisfactory, as of the coolies exposed to the disease 8·36 per cent. of uninoculated persons were affected, of whom 50 per cent. died, while of inoculated coolies, only 1·2 per cent. took the disease and none died. A larger number of persons of the non-emigrant class were inoculated than in 1900, and the work done reflects credit on the Assistant Surgeons who were employed.

There was a severe outbreak of small-pox during the year, and the mortality was higher than in any year since 1877. In Orissa, where the disease was most prevalent, it is said to be due largely to preventible causes, of which inoculation is the chief. The mortality from this cause among children was considerably smaller than in 1900, and 25 per cent. less than in 1899.

Plague attacks and deaths for the whole Province numbered 90,762 and 78,629, respectively, against 40,294 and 38,412 in the preceding year. The fall in the ratio of mortality from 95·74 to 86·63 indicates an improvement in registration, but the percentage is still higher than that which the experience of plague elsewhere has shown to constitute a normal rate. It is noticeable that the percentage of deaths to attacks in Calcutta was as high as 91·54, against 86·11 in the interior. This is possibly due to the greater facilities for evacuation of houses in rural areas. The people in rural areas now understand the value of evacuation of infected houses, and readily resort to

it: and it is to be hoped that the advantages of disinfection will in time be similarly appreciated. It appears that disinfection was satisfactorily carried out in several large towns in Bihar, and Assistant Surgeons and others have been trained in this important work. Anti-plague inoculation was carried out on a considerable scale in Gaya and Patna, but the information as to results is unfortunately incomplete. In Gaya, however, where 22,169 persons were inoculated during the year, only 418 deaths from plague occurred. The fever death-rate was a little higher than the average of the last ten years, though this may be accounted for by the inclusion of deaths from plague. The deaths from dysentery and diarrhœa were fewer than in the previous year, but above the average of the preceding ten years. The greatest number of deaths from these causes occurred in towns—a result probably due to defective diagnosis in rural areas. Deaths from other causes decreased owing to the separate classification of plague.

Emigration.

COLONIAL EMIGRATION.

[Report on Emigration from the Port of Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for 1901; Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Section XXXV Emigration.]

Requisition and despatch of labour.

778. The number of agencies recruiting emigrants for British Colonies was one less than last year, as no labour was needed for Jamaica. The agency for the Dutch Colony of Surinam, which despatched no labourers last year, despatched 643 emigrants during the year under review. There was again an increase both in the total demand and supply of labour for the Colonies; and Demerara, as in the previous year, requisitioned and received the largest number of emigrants. As in former years, though not so markedly, the greater number of the emigrants were recruited in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh (over 63 per cent. of the whole number), but a considerable number were also recruited in the Central Provinces and in Bengal and Bihar, and a few (313, or 1·76 per cent.) were recruited in the Punjab.

Depôts.

779. Of 17,771 emigrants located in the sub-depôts, 15,142 actually arrived in the Calcutta depôts, and after adding to this number emigrants recruited in the preceding year, re-admissions from hospitals after recovery, and infants born during the year, 15,973 emigrants were accommodated in the depôts in Calcutta during the year, as compared with 15,465 in the preceding year.

The casualties in the depôts by death and desertion were fewer than in the preceding year, but rejections for unfitness increased in number, and the sufficiency of the medical examination in the mufassal came under discussion during the year. The sanitary condition of the depôts was generally satisfactory. There was, however, a noticeable prevalence of cerebro-spinal fever; the disease was believed by the Medical Inspector to have been brought into the depôts by intending emigrants and did not originate in the depôts.

Embarkation of emigrants.

780. The emigrants who embarked for the Colonies numbered 11,951, or 277 more than in the preceding year. Of these, 495 were returned emigrants, who re-engaged. There was a marked increase in the number of steam-vessels employed in emigration work as compared with sailing ships during the year.

Returned emigrants; and remittances of immigrants in the Colonies.

781. During the year 3,708 emigrants left the Colonies for India, with aggregate savings of Rs. 6,14,176-9-6, or on an average Rs. 165-10-2 each. Demerara returned the largest number of emigrants, viz., 1,723. The Indian immigrants in Natal, who are about 66,000 in number, remitted to India during the year nearly 12½ lakhs of rupees by money-order, and have again far exceeded the immigrants of other Colonies both in the number and value of their remittances to India. The increase in Natal has been steady and marked for the last four years, rising from Rs. 5-6-8 for each resident immigrant in 1898 to Rs. 18-10-11 in 1901. It would appear that the Indian immigrant in Natal is more prosperous than his fellow-countryman in the other Colonies, but it may be that the increased remittances were a temporary result of the war. The Colonies rank as follows in the order of the value of the average remittances made:—Natal, Fiji, Mauritius, Trinidad, St. Lucia, Demerara and Jamaica.

EMIGRATION TO BURMA.

782. In extension of former arrangements and in view of the increasing number of emigrants to Burma, an arrangement was made during the year with the British India Steam Navigation Company, with the consent of the Government of Burma, under which the Company are to convey for five years, from Calcutta to Rangoon, as deck passengers, at Rs. 7-8 each, or Rs. 2-8 per head below the ordinary charge, 1,500 emigrants during 1901-02, and 2,000 during each of the succeeding four years, provided that not less than two-thirds of such emigrants are despatched during the months of January to July in each year. This Government and the Government of Burma have undertaken to pay to the Company, in equal shares, one-third of each reduced fare, or Rs. 2-8 for each emigrant so despatched.

INLAND EMIGRATION.

[Report on Inland Emigration for 1901.]

Introduction of the Assam Labour and Emigration Act, VI of 1901.

783. The year 1901 was important from the changes in the administration of inland emigration. The new Act, which consolidated and amended the law relating to emigration to the labour districts of Assam, came into force on the 9th March 1901, repealing Act I of 1882 and Act I (B.C.) of 1889; the changes made in the law were reviewed in this Government's Resolution No. 2153, dated the 3rd May 1901. A revised set of rules under the new Act was published for general information in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 16th October 1901 under Notification No. 3412, dated the 15th idem.

Arrangements for the working of the Act.

784. To ensure the proper working of the new Act, five Superintendents of Emigration have been appointed for the following local areas, viz., (1) Ranchi and Palamau, (2) Singhbhum and Manbhum, (3) Hazaribagh, (4) the Sonthal Parganas, and (5) the remaining districts of Bengal; since the close of the year a Travelling Superintendent has been appointed for Bengal and the Central Provinces. A whole-time officer was appointed Superintendent of Emigration and Registering Officer at Ranchi during the latter part of the year for the four busy months of the year, viz, December 1901 to March 1902.

Systems of recruitment.

785. For the first portion of the year emigrants were recruited as in former years—(i) by licensed contractors and recruiters, (ii) by special local agents, (iii) by garden sardars; while a large number went to the labour districts as "free emigrants." The special local agent's system of section 62 of Act I of 1882 ceased to exist with the introduction of Act VI of 1901; and a new system of recruitment by specially-employed garden sardars under Chapter V, section 90 of the new Act became legal from the 15th July 1901 in the districts of Manbhum, Hazaribagh and the Sonthal Parganas.

Number of emigrants.

786. Altogether 30,777 emigrants were despatched to the labour districts as against 65,190 in the previous year; 27,250 embarked at Goalundo and 3,527 at Jatrapur; Assam received 21,663, Cachar 2,596, and Sylhet 2,991 as against 46,635, 6,838, and 11,717 respectively in 1900. The great diminution is partly explained by the fact that the year 1900 was a famine year in Chota Nagpur, and is also ascribed by the Commissioner of that Division to wild stories having been circulated exaggerating the responsibilities incurred by garden sardars under the new Act. There is a further and, to the planter, more serious reason. Coal-mines in Bengal have increased rapidly of late, both in number and in size, and the mine-owner is now a formidable competitor with the tea-planter in the districts of labour-supply. He gives higher wages, and the mines have at least the attraction of being nearer the districts of recruitment.

Recruiting Agencies.

787. Adding to the number of contractors, recruiters, and agents returned by the Superintendent of Emigration, Calcutta, the numbers reported by the local Superintendents, it would appear that there were at work during the year 13 contractors with 10 sub-contractors, 161 licensed recruiters, 24 special local agents who were licensed under the old Act, I of 1882, and continued to work until their licenses expired, and 37 local agents, as compared with 2 contractors, with 16 licensed recruiters, 17 special local agents, and 11 local agents in the preceding year. It may be, however, that individuals were

licensed as contractors in more than one area, and that some have therefore been twice counted.

The increase in the number of recruiters' licenses is said to be indicative of the good effect of the warning given to contractors not to avail themselves of the services of unlicensed recruiters.

The number of garden sardars and sardarnis at work in the recruiting districts fell from 4,045 in 1900 to 3,902 in 1901. During the latter part of the year 17 garden sardars, with special permits under Chapter V of the new Act, were sent to the Chota Nagpur Division, but they despatched no emigrants before the close of the year.

Classification of emigrants.

788. Of the 30,777 emigrants despatched to the labour districts, 11,631, or 34 per cent., as against 40 per cent. in 1900, went as free emigrants; 6 per cent. as against 2 per cent. in 1900 were recruited by the licensed contractors; and 7 per cent. as against 12 per cent. in 1900 by the special local agents; garden sardars recruited 15,041 emigrants, or 48 per cent. of the whole number, as compared with 29,493, or 45 per cent. in the previous year. The districts in Bengal outside the Chota Nagpur Division and the Sonthal Parganas contributed only 2,278 of the registered emigrants. The great decrease in the number of "free" emigrants, who numbered 26,300 in 1900, is attributed by the Superintendent of Emigration, Calcutta, to the prohibition of recruiting otherwise than under Chapters III and IV of the Act in the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division, the Sonthal Parganas, and in the Central Provinces, but is no doubt also due to the abolition of registration at Dhubri.

According to the reports of the Superintendents of Emigration, only 5,894 labour contracts were executed during the year; but it is possible that there has been some mistake in the figures furnished, as out of the total number of emigrants despatched to the labour districts, 19,146, including dependents, were registered under the Act.

Casualties *en route* and sanitary arrangements.

789. Between recruitment and embarkation 255 casualties were ascertained, of which 7 only were deaths, as against 132 deaths in the preceding year. The reduction in the number of casualties on the river journey was very marked, being only 36, or ·11 per cent., as against 227, or ·34 per cent. in 1900. The deaths on the river journey were 26, or ·08 per cent., as against 214, or ·32 per cent. in the previous year.

This result was due to the careful measures adopted for the well-being of the emigrants in transit. Special care was taken by the officials who inspected the depôts, places of accommodation, and rest-houses to see that they were kept clean and well ventilated; that the food and water-supply for drinking, culinary, and ablution purposes were good and sufficient and that the accommodation and latrine arrangements were satisfactory. Vaccination was carefully and efficiently performed. In all the districts the health of the recruits was good, and there was no epidemic among them of any kind, either in the depôts or on the river journey.

Measures taken to ensure the Registration of Emigrants in the District of Recruitment.

790. Special measures were taken to ensure the proper working of sections 33 and 34 of Act VI of 1901, which require registration of emigrants in the district of recruitment. On its being reported that persons acting ostensibly under section 92 of the Act were sending coolies to licensed recruiters in other districts, who registered and put them under contract, contractors were warned that their recruiters must communicate direct with emigrants from the first without the intervention of any third party. They are not prohibited from recruiting, within the local areas for which they are licensed, emigrants residing elsewhere who come to such areas of their own accord, but they are not permitted to employ intermediaries to bring emigrants to them from other local areas. It was pointed out to contractors that if they make use of such assistance, their licenses and those of their recruiters are liable to be cancelled.

In all districts enquiries were made by the registering officers before registration of non-resident emigrants, and in some cases registration was refused. Before registration of single women is allowed, statements of the recruiter and of other emigrants of the party are recorded. Of the 1,907 emigrants registered by contractors, the largest number, viz., 1,347, or 70 per cent. were again registered in the 24-Parganas. In spite of the

precautions taken to have registrations effected in the districts of recruitment, only a small proportion of the emigrants registered in the 24-Parganas and at Raniganj were residents of those districts; and the registration of non-resident emigrants at Calcutta, Howrah and Raniganj still requires careful attention.

Measures adopted for stopping uncontrolled professional recruiting.

791. Licenses were granted after careful enquiry by the Superintendents of Emigration. In Manbhum and Singhbhum a list of licensed contractors and recruiters was communicated to each police thana and outpost. The police were also ordered to instruct the village chaukidars at the weekly parades to see that no person without a recruiter's license is permitted to do any recruiting; and the Emigration Officer at Purulia and the Government Railway Police were ordered to watch the trains and other routes, so that no free coolies may be despatched by rail or otherwise except in accordance with the rules made under the Act.

In order to check unlicensed recruiting in the Sonthal Parganas, the Commissioner of Bhagalpur has directed that a list of the licensed recruiters be sent to all thanas, parganaits, and other leading persons once in six months, so that it may be known who are licensed to recruit, and that information may be given about unlicensed recruiters.

Several cases of infringement of rules having been reported by the Emigration Officers at Katihar, Goalundo and Jatrapur in respect of railway coolies, the provisions of the law were pointed out to the Agent, Assam-Bengal Railway, and he was requested to instruct the railway contractors and labour agents to build and maintain properly-equipped rest-houses at the several halting places on the emigration routes.

On the whole, it may be said that the year was one of transition to a state of more complete supervision and control of recruitment in those districts, viz., the Sonthal Parganas and the districts of Chota Nagpur, in which past experience has shown increased supervision to be necessary in order to prevent abuses of recruiting among simple and ignorant people.

Immigration.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces for 1901-1902.]

792. There was as usual a very large influx of labourers from the Untied Provinces and from Bihar to parts of the Burdwan and Rajshahi Divisions, and to all the districts of the Dacca Division. These are not permanent settlers, but come for labour where wages are good. Settlers from Chota Nagpur and the Sonthal Parganas have made their homes in the Barind tract of Rajshahi and in various parts of the district of Dinajpur, specially in the south. Work on the tea gardens and the roads in the district of Jalpaiguri attracts coolies from Chota Nagpur and from Bihar in increasing numbers. Large numbers of people came as usual from Orissa to Calcutta and other parts of Bengal in search of work, returning during the harvest season.

The wages offered in mills in Calcutta and at places within the districts of the 24-Parganahs, Howrah, Hoogly, Burdwan and Dacca coupled with the provision of better accommodation and the fact that the labourer's wife and children can obtain employment as well as himself, operate as a strong incentive to the people of the United Provinces and Bihar to immigrate to these places.

Calcutta Medical Institutions.

[Triennial Report on the working of Charitable Dispensaries in Bengal and the Calcutta Medical Institutions for 1899-1901; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XIV Hospitals.]

Attendance.

793. There was a slight increase in the number of outdoor patients attending the various Calcutta Medical institutions, the figures being 253,615 against 251,822. The increase was, however, chiefly in patients suffering from minor diseases, but is evidence of the growing popularity of the outdoor departments of the hospitals, especially of the Medical College Hospital. The number of

indoor patients, on the other hand, shows a decrease from 28,372 to 25,989. Judging from the daily average attendance, there appears to be considerable disproportion between the number of beds available and the requirements in the different hospitals. In the Campbell Hospital there were 752 beds, of which 428 were occupied on an average, and in the Presidency General Hospital there were 234, of which 154 were occupied. There were on an average 600 unoccupied beds in the different institutions. The popularity of the Sambhu Nath Pundit Hospital resulted in overcrowding both in 1900 and 1901, and further accommodation is being provided. The number of patients in the Dufferin Victoria Hospital increased from 158 to 382.

Diseases and Death-rate.

794. Excluding eye cases the death-rate among the total number of cases in the hospitals was 15·70 against 17·57. The mortality in some of the hospitals was high; but this is due to the fact that the death-rates in the Calcutta hospitals are largely influenced by the admission of moribund cases. Small-pox broke out in Calcutta in an epidemic form in the latter part of 1900 and continued to increase in severity until March 1901, after which it declined until it practically disappeared in June. This increased the number of admissions for small-pox from 239 to 441, but the date-rate fell from 42·67 to 42·17. Of the 441 cases only 108 were protected, among whom the mortality was remarkably low, viz., 8·33 per cent. The number of admissions for cholera fell from 728 to 442, and the rate of mortality from 61·12 to 53·84. There was only one case of cholera among the patients which proved fatal. There were 56 admissions for enteric fever and 75 for cerebro-spinal fever against 59 and 68, respectively, in the previous year. Most of the cases of enteric fever were treated in the Sambhu Nath Pundit Hospital, and 70·83 per cent. of these proved fatal.

Operations.

795. There was an increase in the number of operations, the figures for the past two years being 27,552 and 26,023, respectively. Of these 207 proved fatal, giving a percentage of ·76 against ·72 in the previous year. In the Eden Hospital there were 553 confinements, and of these 28, or 4·83 per cent., ended fatally. There were 12 deaths from septicæmia, two of which occurred among moribund patients.

Nursing.

796. The nursing work at the principal hospitals has been favourably commented upon. The question of placing the nursing organization on a more systematised basis, with the view of obtaining wider support from the public, has recently received the attention of Government, and a special Committee has been appointed and rules have been framed for its guidance, which should tend to popularize this institution and bring about satisfactory results.

Financial.

797. The invested capital of the Calcutta and Howrah hospitals rose from Rs. 5,96,200 to Rs. 5,99,200, an increase of only Rs. 3,000, which was invested by the Howrah Hospital. The total income amounted to Rs. 10,29,406 against Rs. 10,20,200. The cost to Government decreased by Rs. 25,346, owing mainly to smaller expenditure on new buildings in the Presidency General Hospital. The income from local funds increased by Rs. 3,041. The total expenditure, excluding investments, amounted to Rs. 9,92,468 against Rs. 9,80,158 in 1900. The increase was chiefly in the cost of maintenance, which rose from Rs. 5,69,538 to Rs. 5,95,353.

Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers.

798. Under section 3 of Act III of 1898 the Albert Victor Asylum for Lepers at Gobra was declared an asylum for the purposes of the Act, and a set of rules was framed and a committee appointed for the management of the Asylum. Under section 4 of the Act certain medical officers were appointed to be Inspectors of Lepers in the defined local areas from which lepers were to be sent to the Asylum.

Eden Sanitarium.

[Report on the working of the Eden Sanitarium and Hospital for 1901.]

Buildings.

799. Considerable improvements in the Eden Sanitarium and Hospital were made during the year under review. The new hospital block, which was constructed at a cost of Rs. 20,000 provided by Government, was formally

opened by the Lieutenant-Governor on the 8th May 1901. It was equipped at an expenditure of Rs. 5,000, met from the accumulated savings of the institution. An installation of hot and cold water has recently been supplied to the hospital at a cost of about Rs. 4,000. Other improvements, including a separate infectious ward and new bath-rooms for the second class, were undertaken during the year under review, and will, it is reported, be completed in the course of this year.

Patients.

800. The total number of admissions rose to 548, which is greater than the number recorded in any of the previous six years, the increase being noticeable in all classes except the intermediate class, which shows a decrease of 7 patients. Eight cases were admitted into the hospital section during the winter months as compared with three during the last year. Of the admissions 402 were patients and 146 relatives and friends, against 280 and 104, respectively, in the previous year. The daily average number of patients increased from 21·17 to 32·75. As usual, Calcutta furnished the largest number of inmates. The majority of admissions were due, as in other years, to malarial fevers and debility. There were 11 deaths, while 316 patients were cured and 75 relieved during the year. The number of operations performed was 63, of which 58 were entirely and 4 partially successful, while 8 confinement cases took place. Eleven persons at different times occupied free beds, against 9 in the previous year.

Receipts and Expenditure.

801. The income of the institution rose from Rs. 27,799 to Rs. 37,466, the increase being due to the larger number of admissions. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 5,229. The opening of the hospital section has added to the expenditure, but it is expected that this will in time be recouped by the increased number of admissions. The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals has suggested that economies may be effected by a reduction of expenditure on this section during the cold season months. There was no increase in the endowments of free beds during the year, and subscriptions for the support of the four free beds placed at the disposal of the Calcutta Hospitals have decreased. It is hoped, however, that the improvements which have been carried out recently and that the greater attention to the comforts of the inmates, which is evidenced in the report, will increase the popularity of the institution and place it in a secure financial position.

Charitable Dispensaries.

[Triennial Report on the working of Charitable Dispensaries in Bengal and the Calcutta Medical Institutions for 1899-1901; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XIV Hospitals.]

Number of Dispensaries.

802. The total number of dispensaries outside Calcutta at the beginning of 1901 was 545 and at the end 558, 13 new institutions having been established in the course of the year. The majority of the new dispensaries were established by District Boards. The rate of increase attained in previous years has thus been more than maintained. It is true that the existing dispensaries serve a larger area than in other Provinces, and that the average attendance is lower than in any other Province except Bombay; but the medical demands of the Province are, to a large extent, met by native practitioners who are to be found in every town or large village, and who do a great deal of free work for the poor. During the last five years the outturn of qualified practitioners from the Medical schools in Bengal was three times that of the Medical schools in Bombay and the Punjab. Of the nine Divisions in the Province three, viz., Rajshahi, Chittagong and Dacca, are fairly well provided with dispensaries; but in others, especially in the Patna, Bhagalpur and Chota Nagpur Divisions, the number of Medical institutions is still small.

Attendance.

803. The total number of patients treated during the year was 3,711,839 against 3,467,381. The percentage of population treated rose to 5·02. The increase was chiefly in outdoor patients, as in Calcutta, which is a proof that the attention paid to small amenities and to class and caste prejudices have resulted in an undoubted growth of popularity. This is also proved by the increased attendance of women and children. As is natural, charitable relief is

much more sought in urban than in rural areas. Some remarkable variations are, however, shown, the percentage of patients to population being as high as 351·13 in Noakhali and as low as 11·46 in Khardaha and 16·75 in Puri. The number of indoor patients shows a slight reduction from 50,097 to 49,362, but the daily average attendance rose from 2,073·045 to 2,177·388. The number of beds available rose from 3,512 to 3,628. Attempts are being made to make the indoor wards more popular by providing separate quarters for pauper and moribund patients, and this has been done in 22 dispensaries. The death-rate was considerably lower during the year than that of the preceding year—a result attributed to improved management. The numbers of males, females and children treated increased by 147,470, 47,529 and 49,459, respectively. The number of Hindus increased by 125,863 and Musalmans 116,116. The increase of female patients is attributed, in a great measure, to the provision of separate waiting-rooms and to the supply of couches and screens for the examination of cases in private in a larger number of dispensaries.

Diseases.

804. There was a considerable decrease in the number of patients treated for cholera, the figures being 8,143 against 21,371 in the previous year. Cases of malarial fever, however, show an increase from 629,746 to 653,997. An enquiry made by Captain L. Rogers, I.M.S., into the prevalence of malaria in the tract of country north of Calcutta, and its relationship to drinking water, water-logging and the distribution of anopheles mosquitoes, resulted in the conclusion that there was very definite relationship between drinking-water and the amount of malaria, as judged by the spleen rate in this alluvial area. Cases under dysentery and diarrhœa fell from 89,252 and 96,255 to 84,883 and 92,431, respectively. The number of small-pox cases, however, increased from 204 to 562.

Operations.

805. The total number of operations performed during the year was 155,620 principal and 1,757 secondary, or a total of 157,377 against 146,580 in the previous year, showing an increase of 10,797. The percentage of deaths was ·12 as compared with ·13 in 1900. Of the more important operations the number of ovariotomies rose from 12 to 17. There were 2,482 extractions of lens, 142 litholopaxies, and 115 lithotomies.

Management by Local Bodies.

806. The number of dispensaries managed by local bodies has considerably increased, the most noticeable feature in this respect being the rapid growth of institutions under the management of District Boards. In the matter of management, an improvement has been effected by placing every dispensary, where possible, under a Committee representative not only of the controlling local authority, but also of the general public. This policy is generally carried out, though mention is made of certain places which, for no apparent reasons, are still backward in the matter.

Financial.

807. The main object of appointing Committees is to interest the public in the good management of the dispensaries and to increase subscriptions. Of the total income of dispensaries, which amounted to Rs. 12,18,993 against Rs. 11,49,730 in the previous year, over three lakhs accrued from private subscriptions. Receipts from Municipal and other Local Funds amounted to Rs. 5,82,326 against Rs. 5,38,901. Taken separately, the District Boards' contribution constituted 21·07 per cent. of the total income against 19·83 in 1900. The payments made by Municipalities increased by Rs. 5,348, and were 20·05 per cent. of the total income against 20·8 in 1900. The amount contributed by Government was Rs. 1,13,297 against Rs. 1,25,083 in 1900. The total expenditure, excluding investments, was Rs. 10,40,168, or Rs. 30,562 in excess of the previous year: an increase chiefly attributed to the additional dispensaries opened. The increase in the cost of diet, bazar and European medicines was mainly due to the larger number of patients treated.

Abolition of Civil Stores.

808. In connection with the proposal to abolish the civil stores of medicines maintained at head-quarters of districts and subdivisions for the supply of medicines, etc., to Government servants, which was noticed in paragraph 36 of the previous Report, the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals submitted a statement showing the proposed amounts of the contributions to be made to dispensaries for the free supply of medicines to such Government servants as were entitled to it, and the Commissioners of Divisions were asked to ascertain whether the dispensary authorities would accept the amounts mentioned in the statement.

Lunatic Asylums.

[Returns with notes by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals on the Lunatic Asylums in Bengal for 1901; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XV Lunatics.]

Number of Lunatics.

809. The number of lunatics in all the asylums at the commencement of the year was 943. During the year there were 229 admissions and 20 re-admissions, and 122 discharges and 61 deaths. Allowing for these additions and deductions, the number of inmates in the asylums at the close of the year was 1,009, an increase of 66 on the preceding year, of whom 45 were criminal and 21 non-criminal. The number of criminal lunatics continues to increase, the percentage to the total population in the asylums at the close of the year being 52·92, against 51·85 in 1900.

Cause of Insanity.

810. In 50 per cent. of the total admissions during the year it was possible to discover the cause of insanity. This is an improvement on last year, when the percentage of ascertained cases was only 35. In three-fourths of the cases in which the cause of insanity was traced, it was found to be physical and chiefly the habitual use of *ganja*.

Health of inmates.

811. The general health of the inmates of asylums showed a marked improvement. The total number of admissions to hospital was 576 against 968 in the previous year, and the death-rate was 6·18 per cent. of the average number of inmates against 10·67 per cent. in 1900. There were 24 cases of injuries and accidents to lunatics, against 33 in 1900: and most of them were of a trivial nature, and the warders were not to blame. There were no escapes from the asylums during the year.

Receipts and Expenditure.

812. The income from paying patients and the net receipts from manufactures in all the asylums were Rs. 13,702 and Rs. 6,540, respectively, against Rs. 18,017 and Rs. 6,721 in 1900. The falling-off in the former item of receipts is due to fewer admissions of paying patients into the European Asylum at Bhawanipur. The total expenditure on all the asylums was Rs. 1,39,516 against Rs. 1,30,775, the increase being chiefly under diet and public works. The system of giving rewards for good behaviour and steady work is being tried with good results.

Central Lunatic Asylum.

813. The sanction of the Secretary of State was received to the appointment from among the junior members of the Indian Medical Service of a full-time Superintendent for the Central Lunatic Asylum to be established at Berhampore. The Asylum will be opened as soon as the building is completed.

Plague.

Course of the Epidemic and measures taken to combat it.

814. Plague prevailed in the western part of the Province during the year; but the outbreak was far less severe than in the previous year, the number of reported deaths having been 38,287 against 72,341 in 1900-1901. The districts that suffered the most were Patna, Gaya, Shahabad, Saran and Darbhanga, and to a lesser extent those of Muzaffarpur, Monghyr and Hazaribagh. A few cases were reported from the Chittagong, Rajshahi, Dacca and Orissa Divisions, but they were mostly imported from other parts of the Province.

In Calcutta the total number of attacks and deaths from plague were 6,481 and 6,092, respectively, against 9,579 and 8,837 in the previous year. The course of the epidemic closely resembled that of the preceding years. It attained epidemic form in the month of February, and reached its zenith in March. It subsided rapidly during the month of April, and practically ceased by the end of May.

The Chairman of the Corporation administered the Plague Regulations in Calcutta as in previous years, Major Deane being the Special Health Officer immediately in charge of the operations. Disinfection was carried out in all cases of plague, the inhabitants offering little or no opposition to the work of the Plague staff. In some cases, huts which were known to be plague-centres were demolished, compensation being paid to the owners.

In Patna, Gaya, Saran and Darbhanga there was a marked decrease in the epidemic during the month of April; but in Shahabad, where plague obtained a

hold at a much later date, the disease reached its zenith about the middle of the month and began to subside in May. The decline generally continued till November, when a tendency to rise reappeared. The virulence of the outbreak in the first three districts was far less severe than in the previous year, the number of deaths being, respectively, 6,920, 3,408 and 11,143 against 30,028, 8,412, and 14,323 in 1900-1901. In Darbhanga and Shahabad, however, the mortality exceeded that of the previous year, being 3,068 and 4,176 respectively against 1,449 and 2,008. There were also outbreaks in the districts of Muzaffarpur, Monghyr, the Sonthal Parganas and Hazaribagh. The epidemic began to attain wide proportions throughout the Province in December, and reached its height, as in the previous year, during March. In Gaya inoculation was received with far more willingness than elsewhere, and a large number of the inhabitants of the town and district resorted to it. Disinfection was still regarded with suspicion in the mufassal, and evacuation was the one preventive mesaure generally accepted by the people. Several instances of opposition were reported from the Patna Division during the year.

Plague Rules.

815. The Plague rules for the examination of all vessels and persons leaving the ports of Calcutta and Chittagong were revised, so as to prevent any person who was not inspected and passed under the rules, and any person who, after having been inspected and passed, subsequently went on shore, from being admitted on board a vessel unless the Master of the vessel obtained a fresh bill of health.

Certain simple rules and general instructions were issued by the Sanitary Commissioner, with the approval of Government, for observance by zamindars, managers of mines and mills, etc., on the occurrence of plague in villages and small towns.

Precautions on Railways.

816. Owing to the recurrence of plague in the town of Deoghur, in the Sonthal Parganas, it was directed that the *Sripanchami*, *Magh Purnima* and *Sivaratri* fairs at that place were not to be held during the year. The sale of tickets to intending passengers by railway to the stations of Baidyanath, Baidyanath Junction, Madhupur and Simultala, on the East Indian Railway, between the 31st January and 31st March (both days inclusive), except on the production of a certificate signed by an executive officer of the Government that the journey was undertaken for some purpose other than that of attending the fairs, was stopped.

Inspection of passengers having been introduced at Fatehpur and Bhatni stations, in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, the retention of the Inspection Camps at Chausa and Mairwa was considered unnecessary and they were subsequently closed. The plague inspection at Jhobra ferry, Cuttack, was also discontinued in October 1901.

During the year Medical Officers were appointed at Mokameh, Rampur Hât, Kharagpur and Ranaghat, who were required to attend all trains which stopped at those stations. Their duties were to examine passengers in the carriages or on the platform, and to report to the Station-masters in case any one was found to be suffering from plague or any other infectious disease, with a view to his removal from the train or prohibition from entering it. Temporary hospitals were provided at these stations for the treatment of such passengers, and sheds for the accommodation of those who were detained.

Experiments.

817. Experiments were carried out during the year by Captain Rogers, I.M.S., Officiating Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology, Medical College, on the lines suggested by the Plague Commission as to the cheapest effective disinfectant of floors against Plague.

Restrictions on pilgrimage to the Hedjaz.

818. The concession of pilgrimage to the Hedjaz was restricted only in the cases of residents of Calcutta, and of the Burdwan and Patna Divisions and the Hazaribagh district of the Chota Nagpur Division. Chittagong was the port of embarkation for pilgrims from Bengal, Burma and Assam, and also for those pilgrims belonging to the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh and Central India who wished to embark from that port. In all 3,609 pilgrims availed themselves of the arrangements made, and seven steamers conveying them left the port. The Inspector-General of Police was, as usual, responsible for the arrangements made for despatching the pilgrims, and an Assistant District Superintendent of Police was in charge of the Camp.

Sanitation.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal, for 1900-1901.]

Municipal Expenditure under the different heads of Sanitation during 1900-1901.

819. The total Municipal expenditure on sanitary purposes during 1900-1901 (including capital expenditure) was Rs. 22,03,678, or Rs. 96,399 more than in 1899-1900. Of this sum Rs. 11,62,800 were spent on conservancy, Rs. 2,45,993 on water-supply and Rs. 2,01,557 on drainage.

It is gratifying to find that, as compared with the preceding year, the expenditure during 1900-1901 was larger under all the important heads of sanitation, specially "Drainage" and "Conservancy." The construction of new masonry drains over a mile and half in length, and the extension of the flushing of the drains in the Patna Municipality, the excavation of the Anjona channel in Krishnagar, and the construction of the new road side drains in Chowkbazar, in Monghyr, were the principal drainage works carried out during the year, and largely accounted for an increased expenditure on this account; while a larger outlay under head "Conservancy" was due to better arrangements having been made by many Municipalities, specially by those of Bihar, Patna, Chapra, Gaya, Monghyr, Howrah, Dacca and Narayanganj for the efficient cleaning of the roadways and the removal of filth, &c., in some, and for carrying out measures for the prevention of plague in others. During 1900-1901 only 13 Municipalities devoted over 10 per cent. of their income for carrying out original sanitary works as compared with 10 in the preceding year, 19 against 20 between 5 and 10 per cent., and 77 against 75 below 5 per cent., while 46 against 48 spent nothing on this account.

Sanitary works executed in towns and rural Areas.

820. The total cost of sanitary works carried out or in progress in towns and rural areas by Municipalities, District Boards, Government and private individuals during 1900-1901 amounted in towns to Rs. 4,20,588, against Rs. 4,15,276 in the preceding year, and in rural areas to Rs. 6,05,194, against Rs. 4,96,957. Almost all the Municipalities spent a fair proportion of their income on charges of a recurring nature under head "Sanitation and Conservancy." In fact, in many instances the expenditure incurred was much larger than the receipts under those heads, and was met from General Revenues.

Sanitary Board.

821. The Sanitary Board held one meeting during the year under report as against three in the previous year. The principal subject of discussion at the meeting was the septic tank system of sewage disposal, and its adoption by Municipalities. The more important preliminary estimates prepared under the orders of the Board during the year were those relating to the Narayanganj water-works, the riparian Municipalities' water-supply, the Rangpur drainage scheme, the Patna distillery water-supply and the Rampur-Boalia water-supply. The Board were also asked for an expression of opinion on a number of projects, the most important of which were the Maniktala drainage project, the scheme for the supply of filtered water to the Garden Reach Municipality, that for the supply of unfiltered water to Cossipore-Chitpur and the Howrah water-works extension. Various miscellaneous references were made during the year to the Board by Government, local authorities and Managers of Government and Wards' estates.

A good deal of the Sanitary Engineer's time was occupied during the year with work in connection with the Calcutta Corporation, but he was able to pay visits of inspection to several mufassal Municipalities.

Vaccination.

[Triennial Report on Vaccination for 1899-1902; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XV, Lunatics.]

Number of Operations.

822. THE total number of operations performed during the year was 2,662,826 against 2,346,311, or an increase of 316,515 operations. The increase was contributed by Provincial rural areas (334,046) and mufussal Municipalities and dispensaries, &c. (1,241). In Calcutta, however, the number of operations decreased from 43,326 to 24,554. The average number of operations per man in the rural areas was 950, against 951 in the previous year. In Municipalities and dispensaries it rose from 602 to 650. This increase is attributed to the greater activity of the Department, but there is still room for further

improvement. It is now ostimated that, on an average, 1,060 operations were performed by each paid vaccinator against 944 by the licensed agency. The increase of vaccination in rural areas and mufassal towns was small. The increase in the districts of Mymensingh (43,215), Midnapore (35,927) and the 24-Parganas (33,177) is, however, noticeable; but it is due in a great measure to the prevalence of small-pox in these districts.

Primary Vaccinations.

823. The total number of primary vaccinations performed in Bengal during the year 1901-1902 was 2,529,778 against 2,227,942. Of these 2,409,211 were done in rural areas, 14,898 in Calcutta, including the operations performed in the Animal Vaccination Depôt in Calcutta, and 105,669 in the mufassal Municipalities and dispensaries, against 2,116,342, 16,783 and 94,817 in 1900-1901. There was thus an improvement in the rural areas and mufassal Municipalities and dispensaries, while the number in Calcutta shows a decline. The rate of success in the three areas was 98·12, 94·67 and 96·05, against 97·87, 95·07 and 95·58, respectively.

Protection of Infants.

824. During the year under review out of 3,306,736, the estimated number of infants under one year available for vaccination, 775,729 were successfully vaccinated. The proportion of infants successfully vaccinated per thousand of the surviving infant population available for vaccination during the year was 234·59 per thousand, against 189·08 in 1900-1901 and 201·25 in 1899-1900. In the districts of Darjeeling, Malda, Bhagalpur and Ranchi, where there was no great opposition to infant vaccination, more than half the infant population is protected, while in Balasore, Tippera, Bogra and Puri the population protected is below 100 per mille, the figure for the latter district being as low as 26·90. The districts of Shahabad, Hooghly, Singhbhum, the Tributary States of Orissa, Cuttack and Muzaffarpur show little better results, the ratio in those districts varying from 136 to 101 per mille.

Revaccinations.

825. There were 133,048 revaccinations with 89,234 successful cases, against 118,369 with 70,098 successful cases in 1900-1901. In rural areas there was an increase of 41,177 revaccinations, while in Calcutta and mufassal Municipalities and dispensaries, &c., the number diminished by 16,887 and 9,611, respectively. The ratio per cent. of successful cases was 67·06 against 59·22 in 1900-1901.

Recess Work.

826. During the recess or non-working season of 1901-1902, 224,510 operations were performed, chiefly in connection with small-pox epidemics and the up-keep of lymph for emergencies, against 113,392 in 1900-1901. There was an increase of 111,118 cases.

Six-puncture Vaccination.

827. During the year 613,849 successful primary operations were performed in six points, against 552,867 in 1900-1901. The figures for revaccination were 18,959, against 9,177 in the previous year. The increase is satisfactory and shows that this method of vaccination is gradually coming to be appreciated by the people.

Factory and Tea-garden Vaccination.

828. In factories and tea-gardens the total number of vaccinations performed was 9,121. Of these 7,624 were primary vaccinations and 1,497 revaccinations, against 6,332 and 1,225, respectively, in 1900-1901. In primary cases the percentage of success was 97·37 and in revaccinations 50·90.

Agency Employed.

829. The total number of licensed vaccinators employed was 2,211, against 2,214 in the previous year, and the number of operations performed by them was 2,087,518 against 2,075,223. Under District Board agency there was an increase of six vaccinators and 11,065 operations during the year. The average number of operations performed by each man also increased from 1,166 to 1,261. Under Municipal agency there was a decrease of 16 vaccinators, viz., 224 against 240, and of 15,240 operations. The number of paid vaccinators employed by Government and Native States decreased from 38 to 37, and the number of operations from 46,197 to 41,552.

Cost.

830. The total cost of vaccinations during the year was Rs. 1,87,818 against Rs. 1,88,114, and the cost of each successful case was one anna two pies against one anna four pies. Out of the total expenditure shown above Rs. 4,845 were contributed by District Boards, Rs 2,844 by Native States, Rs. 1,44,225 from Provincial Revenues, and the balance from other sources.

Small-pox Mortality.

831. The total number of deaths from small-pox during the past year was 48,207 against 25,302. The ratio of deaths per 10,000 of population was

6·21 against 3·4. The largest number of deaths was recorded in the districts of—

Midnapore	...	13,458	Rangpur	...	1,643
Cuttack	...	6,291	24-Parganas	...	1,519
Mymensingh	...	3,175	Gaya	...	1,476
Balasore	...	2,148	Bankura	...	1,356
Patna	...	1,977	Puri	...	1,078
Singhbhum	...	1,680	Palamau	...	995

The districts which suffered least were Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi and Darjeeling.

Defects of the present system of Vaccination in Calcutta.

832. The defects of the present system of vaccination in Calcutta were brought to the notice of Government, and the attention of the Corporation was drawn to the necessity for improving it. After consulting the Health Officer they submitted certain proposals and were then requested to report whether it would not be advisable as a first step in the direction of improving the registration of births, which was necessary for an efficient system of vaccination, to impose on medical practitioners an obligation to report births at which they assist, and whether the Health Officer could not arrange with large employers of labour and managers of large works for the provision of suitable accommodation where a vaccinator might attend at stated times and thus afford special facilities to the labourers and their families for obtaining the benefits of vaccination. The Chairman was also requested to state what had actually been done or was in contemplation to improve vaccine stations. The question was still under consideration at the close of the year.

Supervision of Vaccination in the Tributary States of Chota Nagpur.

833. With a view to remedy the unsatisfactory state of vaccination in the Tributary States of Chota Nagpur an officer of the rank of Assistant Surgeon was appointed to supervise the work of the vaccinators, the expenditure being met by a contribution from the Chiefs. Arrangements were also made for the supervision of vaccination in the Political States of Seraikela and Kharsawan.

Miscellaneous.

834. In the Animal Vaccination Depôts at Calcutta and Darjeeling the average number of calves vaccinated was 417 and 239, against 452 and 169, respectively, in the previous year. The average quantity of lanoline paste in grains manufactured was 74,325 and 61,842, against 65,832 and 50,329, respectively, in 1900-1901. During the year 323,884 primary vaccinations were performed with lymph taken direct from the calf, 244,244 with lanoline lymph, and 1,961,650 by the arm-to-arm process. The ratio of success under each of these methods of vaccination was 98·56, 96·07 and 98·16, respectively. The number of revaccinations under each of these processes was 35,134, 34,021 and 63,893. Six hundred and seventy-five grains of vaccine lymph were supplied from the Animal Vaccination Depôt at Darjeeling to the Nepal Darbar.

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

General System of Public Instruction.

Directing and Inspecting Agencies.

835. The Department of Public Instruction is controlled by a Director. There are nine Divisional Inspectors of Schools, one Inspector of European Schools, one Inspectress of Girls' Schools, six Assistant Inspectors, 52 Deputy Inspectors and 212 Sub-Inspectors of Schools. Inspecting Pandits or Guru Instructors have been appointed in many districts to assist the Sub-Inspectors in the supervision of Primary schools. Under recent rules sanctioned by Government for the guidance of all inspecting officers, Inspectors are responsible for the progress of High schools, Deputy Inspectors for Middle schools and Sub-Inspectors for Primary schools.

Under orders of Government the District Officers and Subdivisional Officers inspect both Primary and Secondary schools.

District Officers and District Boards.

836. Under the Local Self-Government Act of 1885, which has now been extended to all the districts in Bengal except the Sonthal Parganas, Singhbhum, Darjeeling, Chittagong Hill Tracts and Angul, the District Boards have control over education; and in some districts the District Boards have entrusted the Local Boards appointed for subdivisions of districts with certain duties in regard to Primary schools. Every District Board has a Committee for dealing with education of which the Deputy Inspector of Schools is always a member; and similar Committees exist in districts in which the Local Self-Government Act is not in force.

The main divisions of educational institutions are Primary, Secondary, and Collegiate.

The main object of Primary schools is to provide the masses with some knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic.

Primary Education for Indian Boys.

837. The primary schools for Indian boys are of two classes, Upper and Lower. The final courses of studies formerly pursued in these two classes of schools, are compared below with the new courses recently prescribed for them:—

A COMPARISON OF THE OLD AND THE NEW COURSES.

LOWER PRIMARY COURSE.

Old Course.	Pages.	*New Course.*	Pages.
1. One literature book, including a lesson in Geography. Hand-writing ... ... Reading text-book ... Reading manuscript ...	84	1. Science Primers, Standards I and II. Hand-writing ... ... Reading	69
2. (*a*) Arithmetic ... ... (*b*) Mental Arithmetic (European and Native).	100	2. Arithmetic, European and Native, Mental Arithmetic ...	100
3. Subhankari	50	3. Drawing.	
4. Hygiene	40	4. School drill.	
		5. Object-lessons on the sky and air and the subjects in Science ...	16
		6. Manual work (optional).	
Total course of reading ...	274	Total course of reading ...	179

UPPER PRIMARY COURSE.

	Pages.
1. Bengali language and Grammar	230
2. (*a*) History of Bengal ...	100
(*b*) Geography of the four quarters	50
(*c*) Geography of Bengal ...	25
3. European Arithmetic and Native Arithmetic ...	100
4. Euclid, Book I, 26 propositions, and Mensuration ...	50
5. (*a*) Elements of Physical Science	60
or Agriculture ...	200
(*b*) Sanitation for boys ...	200
Domestic Economy for girls	100
Total Course of reading { Boys {	815 or 955
Girls	605

	Pages.
1. A literature book including—	
(*a*) Prose	40
(*b*) Poetry	20
(*c*) Grammar	10
2. Historical Reader (Bengal) ...	60
3. Geographical Reader ...	40
4. European and Native Arithmetic and Mental Arithmetic ...	100
5. Practical Geometry and Mensuration	40
6. Science Primers, Standards III and IV	160
7. Freehand drawing.	
8. Drill.	
9. Object-lessons on the action of water in nature and the subjects in science ...	20
10. Manual work (optional).	
Total course of reading ...	490

By the introduction of the new Vernacular Education Scheme sanctioned in 1901, the courses prescribed for pupils of different ages from 5 to 9 attending the lower classes of these schools, have been graduated and steps have been taken to teach practical subjects as much as possible, with a view to train the faculty of observation and the use of the pupil's eyes and hands.

Altogether 45,910 Primary schools (Upper and Lower) for Indian pupils with an attendance of 1,211,939 pupils were returned on the 31st March 1902, against 47,525 schools with 1,122,930 pupils in 1892-93. The system of payment by results of public examinations of pupils has been fully tried in all the Divisions of Bengal and is now about to be abandoned. To secure the permanency of the weak *pathsalas* located in backward and poor villages, where gurus' income from fees is precarious, an advance reward system was introduced and worked for many years. The number of Primary schools maintained and aided from public funds was 33,896 on the 31st March 1902, against 37,024 on the same date of the year 1893. The decrease is attributed to the more careful supervision which is exercised over aided Primary schools. Efforts are being made with a view to improve them in quality, and to eliminate the ephemeral schools from the aided list. The decrease in the number of schools returned need not be regretted, as the number of pupils has increased by 8 per cent.

Secondary Instruction.

838. Secondary schools are institutions in which the course of studies leads from the Primary to Collegiate education.

Under this head are comprised High, Middle English and Middle Vernacular schools. The schools maintained by Government and by District or Municipal Boards are classed as schools under public management: aided and unaided schools are the schools under private management. The numbers of High schools for Indian pupils under public management were 54 with 16,863 pupils, 221 High schools with 43,243 pupils were aided from public funds, two schools with 313 pupils were maintained by Native States, while 248 schools with 59,744 pupils were unaided schools. Middle schools for boys numbered 1,903, with an attendance of 121,105 pupils. Of these, 202 schools were under public management, *i.e.*, maintained by Government or by District or Municipal Boards. Drill has been introduced in all Government and aided High schools. The courses of studies in Secondary schools have been much improved by the introduction in them of very elementary scientific and practical subjects.

Discipline has been maintained by the transfer rules governing the transfer of students from one institution to another, and by the rules for the management of hostels and students' messes, and by encouragement of games.

Grant in-aid Rules.

839. Important changes recently introduced in the general rules for grants-in-aid to Secondary schools are that instruction of the lowest classes in

the vernacular only and the introduction of drill and drawing has been made a condition of aid. The grant of loans for building purposes has been discontinued, and building grants are now made on conditions which require repayment only if a school building cease to be used for educational purposes. Rules have been introduced for the distribution of the Government grants-in-aid to schools for girls in and about Calcutta.

Scholarships.

840. The various scholarships sanctioned for the encouragement of education and their numbers are as follows :—

		Number of scholarships.
1.	Senior Scholarships	52
2.	Junior „	152
3.	Junior Scholarships for Aboriginals	2
4.	Special Scholarships for Muhammadans—	
	Government	52
	Endowed	58
5.	Middle Scholarships	300
6.	Upper Primary Scholarships	300
7.	Lower Primary ditto	1,075
8.	Enginering ditto	42
9.	Mohsin ditto	15
10.	Sanskrit College, Government endowed Scholarships	34
11.	Art School Scholarships	23

The first four kinds of scholarships are intended for the encouragement of Collegiate education (general or special). Middle and Upper Primary scholarships are intended for the encouragement of High and Middle school education. There are other scholarships, paid from endowments made for the encouragement of the general and special education imparted in colleges and schools. Besides these there are stipends sanctioned for Training and Survey schools.

Girls' Schools.

841. The number of schools (Secondary and Primary) for Indian girls has declined from 2,821 to 2,682, but the pupils have increased from 56,579 to 59,174. The number of girls in boys' schools also increased from 34,200 to 38,788. The increase in the number of pupils, in spite of the decreased number of girls' schools, is a healthy sign. In 1892-93 there were only five High Schools for Indian girls, four in Calcutta and one in Dacca. The number has increased by one, by the opening of a school of this class at Bankipur.

Calcutta University.

842. The Calcutta University was at first in its nature an Imperial University rather than one confined to Provincial limits It at first exercised its functions in the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, the Punjab and many parts of Central India, and also in Assam, Burma and parts of Ceylon. The tendency, however, of the changes within recent periods has been more and more to restrict the area over which the University has acted. The Punjab University now controls most of the Punjab colleges, and the Allahabad University deals with the colleges in the United Provinces and most of those in the Central Provinces. Hence the area of action of the Calcutta University is being more and more limited to Bengal, Assam and Burmah, though outlying colleges are still affiliated to it. It still has the Viceroy as Chancellor, and all its Fellows are nominated by the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council. Reforms in the constitution of the University are now under consideration.

Affiliation to Foreign Universities.

843. The Calcutta University was affiliated to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge in 1889 and 1887; it has since been affiliated to the University of Dublin. This affiliation means that a student who satisfies specified tests of the Calcutta University will, on proceding to those Universities, be admitted to certain privileges, such as the gain of some terms, or the exemption from passing certain preliminary examinations or parts of examinations.

Affiliation.

844. The Calcutta University continues to be mainly an examining body, and its principal functions are to affiliate colleges and recognise schools, to prescribe courses of studies, to hold examinations, and to grant certificates and diplomas to the successful examinees. It is, therefore, under these heads that changes have chiefly to be looked for. Under the head of affiliation of colleges,

two important points have recently received attention. One of these is that the Syndicate, before they recommend an institution for affiliation, must consider whether its establishment is likely to be detrimental to the interests of sound education and discipline. Again, Principals of affiliated institutions are required to submit every year a report to the Syndicate showing the staff maintained throughout the preceding year, and to give the names of all members of the staff at the time of submitting the report.

Recognition.

845. With regard to recognition of schools, it has been ruled by the Syndicate that authorities of a school which fails to pass 20 per cent. of the candidates sent up to the Entrance examination for three consecutive years, will be warned that, if the school should continue to show unsatisfactory results, its name will be struck off the list of recognised schools. If in the fourth year, too, the school passes less than 20 per cent. of the candidates, it will be liable to be deprived of the privilege of sending up candidates to the Entrance examination. A rule has also been passed which provides that, if a school fails to maintain the conditions which were considered necessary for its recognition, it may be struck off the list of recognized schools: but this rule has never yet been put into force.

Moderators.

846. In order to secure uniformity of standards of examination, arrangements have been adopted under which the papers in English, Mathematics, and History and Geography for the Entrance examination and in English, Mathematics, Sanskrit and Elementary Physics and Chemistry for the First Examination in Arts are moderated. Three persons are appointed a Board of Examiners to set each of the papers. The duty of two of them is to set the papers in consultation with each other at a meeting, and the duty of the third, who is designated Moderator, is to revise each paper in consultation with the other two Examiners, all points of difference being decided by a majority of votes. Each paper has then to be submitted to the Registrar with a certificate signed by all the three Examiners stating that the questions conform to the prescribed conditions and do not involve a variation from the average standard. It has also been decided that when two or more persons are appointed to set papers in any subject for the F.A., B.A., B.Sc. or M.A. examinations, it shall be their joint duty to moderate the papers set by them in consultation with each other.

The F.A. Examination.

847. Recently a rather important change has been introduced in the First Arts curriculum. Formerly, candidates were required to pass in four subjects only, viz., English, Mathematics, a second language and Physics, and there were three optional subjects, History, Logic and Chemistry, all of which might be offered. There are now five compulsory subjects—English, Mathematics, a second language, Physics and Chemistry (comprised under the general name Science), and either History or Logic. There are also optional subjects comprising Logic, History (the subject taken up as an optional subject must be different from the compulsory subject which has been chosen by the student), Physiology and Sanitary Science, of which not more than one can be taken by a candidate.

The B.A. Examination.

848. Three subjects have to be chosen for the B.A. examination. They are divided into two groups—the "A" group comprising languages, Philosophy and History, and the "B" group comprising English, Mathematics and a science, or group of two sciences. Logic has been included in the pass course in Mental Science for the B.A. examination. This formerly comprised Psychology and Ethics only. Similarly Elementary Descriptive Astronomy has been included in the pass course in Mathematics, which formerly included only Statics, Hydrostatics and Dynamics. A more important innovation is the introduction of a practical examination in Chemistry in the scheme of examination for Honours in Physics and Chemistry.

The M.A. Examination.

849. In this examination one subject only has to be prescribed. There has been a bifurcation in the course prescribed in Mathematics for the M.A. examination. There is, first the "A" group with pure Mathematics as the principal subject, and mixed Mathematics as a subsidiary subject, and second, the "B" group with mixed Mathematics as the principal subject, and pure Mathematics as a subsidiary subject. Instances of similar bifurcation introduced earlier may be seen in the splitting up of Physics and Chemistry into two separate subjects and, later, of Physics itself being split into two groups, one comprising Heat,

Electricity and Magnetism as principal subjects, and Light and Sound as subsidiary subjects, and the other comprising Light and Sound as principal subjects, and Heat, Electricity and Magnetism as subsidiary subjects.

Encouragement of the Study of Vernacular Literature.

850. An optional paper requiring an original composition in Bengali, Hindi, Urdu or Uriya is now set at the F.A. and the B.A. examinations, and candidates who obtain 50 per cent. of the marks, or more, in this paper, receive a special certificate. These marks are not counted towards passing the respective examinations.

Law Examinations.

851. For the B.L. examination, the number of papers has been increased from six to eight, and candidates are required to obtain 33 per cent. of marks in each of the 8 papers, and, besides, to obtain 50 per cent. of the total marks. Some important changes have also been made in the course of studies for the examination in Honours in Law.

Medical Examinations.

852. Formerly, candidates who failed at the L.M.S. or the M.B. examinations, the Preliminary Scientific, the first and the second examinations, were permitted to appear at subsequent examinations without a further course of attendance at College lectures. But now a course of further attendance is obligatory on such candidates, as it has all along been in the case of failed F.A. and B.A. candidates, with this difference, that while the latter have to attend lectures in all the subjects of their examination, the former have to attend a course of instruction only in those subjects in which they failed to pass.

The second L.M.S. examination, which was formerly held once a year, is now held twice, the second examination being practically a re-examination of those who failed at the first. A candidate who fails to pass the second L.M.S. or M.B. examination is, under present rules, re-examined only in the subject or subjects in which he has failed, if he presents himself for re-examination (at the second L.M.S. examination) within the course of a year. If he does not so present himself, he is re-examined in all the prescribed subjects. But a candidate who fails in more than two of the subjects—Medicine, Surgery, Midwifery, and Pathology—or in two of these and in Medical Jurisprudence and Hygiene, cannot be admitted to the examination next following that at which he failed.

Engineering Examinations.

853. Among the more important changes adopted by the University in the rules for these examinations may be mentioned, *first*, the rule under which B.A.'s in the B course can be admitted to the first examination in Engineering after only two years study in an affiliated institution of Engineering, the period of such study required in the case of undergraduates being three years; and, *second*, that under which candidates for Honours in Engineering, who must have previously passed the L.E. or the B.E. examinations, can be examined not only in Civil Engineering, as formerly, but also at their option, in Mining and Electrical Engineering.

Science Examinations and Degrees.

854. The University has also instituted two new Degrees in Science—the B.Sc. (Pass and Honours) and the D.Sc., which will be awarded on the results of special examinations held for the purpose.

The subjects for the B.Sc. examination are as follows:—

A.—Compulsory Subjects.

I. English essay.	III. Physics.
II. Mathematics.	IV. Chemistry.

B.—Optional subjects. (*Two have to be taken up.*)

V. Physiology.	VIII. Geology.
VI. Botany.	IX. Mineralogy.
VII. Zoology.	X. Mathematics.

At the examination in English short essays only are required to be written on some portion of a subject in Physical Science or Chemistry, and also in one of the other optional subjects taken up by the candidate.

The main difference between the Science examinations for B.A. candidates in the B. course, and B.Sc. candidates is, that at the latter examination, both for Pass and for Honours, candidates have to satisfy the examiners at a practical test, a condition which has only to a very limited extent been recently imposed on B.A. candidates going up for Honours in Physics and Chemistry.

Candidates for the Degree of D.Sc. are required to have passed as preliminary examinations the B.Sc. examination, the M.A. examination in either Mathematics or Natural and Physical Science, and also a subsidiary special examination in Science or Mathematics. All candidates for the D.Sc. Degree are required to produce an original thesis which must receive the approval of the examiners.

Encouragement of Post-graduate Studies.

855. The Premchand-Roychand studentships awarded by the University have been thrown open to competition among all graduates of the Calcutta University who have taken the Degree of Master or Doctor in any Faculty. They are required to compete for the studentships within 12 years (not 10 years as formerly) of passing the Entrance examination. No candidate is now allowed to take up more than two subjects: the maximum number of subjects in past years was five. Formerly conspicuous success at the examination was sufficient to secure a candidate the continuance of the studentship for five years. Now each studentship is tenable in the first instance for two years, during which the student is expected to carry on some special investigation or work in the subject or subjects in which the studentship was awarded. It is extended for a further period of three years, if the student satisfies the Syndicate that he has carried out such an investigation and continues it during this further period. An annual report of the work in which a student has been engaged has to be submitted to the Syndicate.

Endowments.

856. Among more recent endowments the Griffith Memorial Prize, open to all persons who have taken the Degree of Bachelor of Arts or the corresponding Degree in any other Faculty, deserves special mention as encouraging post-graduate study and research. Candidates are required to submit anessay or a record of some original work in some department of Science or Letters, the prize being awarded to Science and Letters in alternate years. The value of the prize is about Rs. 900.

The Coates Memorial Prize may also be noticed as furnishing a stimulus for post-graduate researches. It is awarded to the best writer of a thesis on any indigenous drug or drugs selected by the candidate, subject to the approval of the President of the Faculty of Medicine, and is open to any graduate in Medicine of the Calcutta University who has been engaged in the practice of his profession for at least five years.

The Gilchrist Scholarships awarded to natives of India on condition that the scholars should study Science at any approved University or College in Europe, with a view to obtaining a Degree or a Diploma, have been discontinued.

Government School of Art.

857. The courses of instruction pursued in the Government School of Art have been improved and now consist of two divisions. The stages in Division I are (I) Elementary Free-hand Drawing, (II) Advanced Free-hand Drawing, (III) Studies in Light and Shade, (IV) Geometrical Drawing, (V) Perspective Drawing, (VI) Modelling, (VII) Elementary Design, (VIII) Elementary Painting, (IX) Advanced Design, (X) Lithography and (XI) Wood Engraving. Division II is intended for those who wish to study Drawing, Painting and Modelling with a view to becoming portrait, figure and landscape painters or sculptors. In the Artisan Class special instruction in Practical Geometry and Mechanical Drawing from measurement is given to artisans and sons of artisans, not under the age of 12 years, at greatly reduced fees. Free studentships are given to a limited number of deserving students, generally sons of artisans or teachers who intend to follow their fathers' professions. Students obtaining certificates are eligible for appointments in Government Departments as Drawing-teachers, Draughtsmen and Designers. Two new Art Schools have lately been opened in Calcutta under private management.

Sanskrit College Examinations.

858. The Sanskrit College was originally founded for the study of Sanskrit. An English Department was subsequently added. This now teaches up to the F.A. Standard of the Calcutta University. But Sanskrit is taught up to the M.A. Standard, and also for the Title Examination, on the results of which titles of Honour for proficiency in different branches of Sanskrit learning are conferred. A Vedic class has lately been opened with an endowment made by the Mohant of Tarakeshwar. In it instruction is given in Vedic literature. Standards have been prescribed for the Sanskrit first and second examinations which are preliminary to the Sanskrit Title Examination. On the results of these examinations stipends are awarded to the pupils of *tols*

(indigeneous schools for Sanskrit learning) and their teachers. An endowment of one lakh and sixty-thousand rupees was made by the late Babu Bhudeb Mukerjee, C.I.E., an Inspector of Schools, chiefly for the encouragement of Sanskrit learning. Numerous Sanskrit Associations have been formed in important districts in which the study of this Oriental language is much appreciated. The examinations are conducted under the general supervision of the Principal, Sanskrit College.

Madrasahs. 859. The Madrasahs are institutions in which instruction is given in Persian and Arabic. The number of the Government Madrasahs has increased from five to six. The increase is due to the Madrasah at Cox's Bazar, in Chittagong, having been taken over under public management. Of these the Madrasahs at Dacca, Rajshahi and Hooghly are maintained from the Mohsin Fund. The students in the College Department of the Calcutta Madrasah attend lectures in the Presidency College. Some of these Madrasahs have attached to them English classes teaching up to the Entrance Course of the Calcutta University. A common examination in Arabic, called the Central Examination of the Madrasahs, is conducted by a Board of Examiners, of which the Principal of the Calcutta Madrasah is the Registrar. Certificates are issued to the successful candidates for proficiency in the Higher and Lower Standards. The posts of Persian teachers in schools and colleges are open to those who pass these examinations. To improve the prospects and usefulness of such Maulvis the teaching of English, as an optional subject, has been introduced in the Madrasahs.

Survey Schools. 860. Of the three Government Survey schools, that at Bankipur has been raised to the status of an Engineering school, teaching up to the Overseer standard of the Civil Engineering College.

Industrial and Artisan Schools. 861. The number of the Industrial and Artisan schools has increased in ten years from 21 to 30. This number includes four Commercial schools opened in Calcutta. The Technical schools in the mufassal have all been affiliated to the Civil Engineering College at Sibpur and placed under the inspection of the Principal of that College. One of these, that at Ranchi, is a Government school; six are managed by District Boards and the rest are under private management. The Bihar Industrial School at Bankipur has been amalgamated with the Bihar School of Engineering.

Other Schools. 862. Other special schools have increased from 13 to 519. The large increase is due to the inclusion, under this head, of the recognised *tols* which, having adopted the prescribed Sanskrit standards, have been, under orders of Government, classed as "Other Schools" under the head of Public Institutions. Reformatory schools, which have recently been transferred from the Jail to the Education Department, and Deaf-and-Dumb schools and Music schools have also been included under this head.

Training Institutions. 863. The Training Institutions mostly train Vernacular masters for Secondary and Primary schools. Lately a Government Training college for English teachers, European and Native, has been opened at Kurseong. At this school the masters of the Training schools for native teachers also receive instruction. Training schools for masters increased from 21 to 23, but those for mistresses decreased from 11 to 9. The latter are all under Missionary bodies.

Colleges for General Education. 864. The number of the Government, Municipal and aided colleges is the same, viz., eleven, one and seven, respectively. The number of unaided colleges increased by 11—from 15 in 1892-93 to 26 in 1901-1902—by the opening of four colleges in Calcutta and seven in the mufassal.

The following table gives name, grade and the number of pupils of each of the Arts colleges returned on the 31st March 1902:—

No.	Names of Colleges.	Grade.	Number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March 1902.	No.	Names of Colleges.	Grade.	Number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March 1902.
1	Presidency College ...	1st grade	611	5	Patna College ...	1st grade	149
2	Hooghly ,, ...	Ditto	117	6	Ravenshaw ,, ...	Ditto	109
3	Dacca ,, ...	Ditto	412	7	Rajshahi ,, ...	Ditto	190
4	Krishnagar ,, ...	Ditto	77	8	Bethune ,, ...	Ditto	36

No.	Names of Colleges.	Grade.	Number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March 1902.	No.	Names of Colleges.	Grade.	Number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March 1902.
9	Sanskrit College	1st grade	66	28	Bangabasi College ...	1st grade	616
10	Calcutta Madrasah ...	2nd grade	38	29	Raj Chandra „ ...	Do. ...	269
11	Chittagong College ...	Do. ...	80*	30	B. M. Institution ...	Do. ...	276
12	Midnapore „ ...	Do. ...	52	31	Bihar National College ...	Do. ...	107
13	G. A. Institution	1st grade	648	32	Doveton College	Do. ...	24
14	Duff College	Do. ...	386	33	Loretto House	2nd grade	3
15	St. Xavier's College ...	Do. ...	394	34	Central College ...	1st grade	135
16	London Missionary Society, Bhawanipur.	Do. ...	123	35	Hetampur „ ...	2nd grade	19
17	Narail Victoria	Do ...	69	36	Uttarpara „ ...	Do. ...	60
18	La Martinière for Girls ...	Do. ...	16	37	Monghyr D. J. College ...	Do. ...	27
19	Dublin University Mission ...	2nd grade	36	38	Pabna College	Do. ...	93
20	Metropolitan Institution ...	1st grade	660	39	Bishop's „	1st grade	6
21	City College	Do. ...	383	40	Bhumihar Brahman College ...	2nd grade	154
22	Albert College	2nd grade	84	41	Church Missionary Society's College.	Do. ...	8
23	Ripon College	1st grade	526	42	Comilla Victoria College ...	Do. ...	158
24	Burdwan Raj	2nd grade	255	43	La Martinière for Boys ...	1st grade	20
25	Jagannath College, Dacca ...	Do. ...	231	44	Tangail P. M. College ...	2nd grade	99
26	Berhampur College ...	1st grade	156	45	Mymensingh City College* ...	Do. ...	79
27	T. N. Jubilee „ ...	Do. ...	173				

* Recently affiliated.

The attendance of the College Department of the Bethune College increased from 20 to 36. Eight girls passed the last Entrance examination from the High Schools in Calcutta. Three of these were Hindus: one Hindu girl passed this examination from the Aided High School at Bankipur. From the Bethune College 21 girls have passed the F.A. examination and 4 the B.A. examination during the last three years.

The Raj College, Burdwan, is the only free College in Bengal. Low fee rates of Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 a month obtain in the Rajshahi, Bethune, Sanskrit and Chittagong Colleges, and in the Calcutta Madrasah. Of the aided colleges only the College at Narail charges so small a fee-rate as Rs. 3 only. Of the Government colleges the Krishnagar, Ravenshaw, Rajshahi and Chittagong Colleges have some income under the head of endowments and other sources. The policy of Government of placing certain of the Government colleges entirely under Indian Professors is being gradually carried out.

Expenditure on Education.

865. The expenditure on public instruction from public funds advanced from 36 lakhs in 1892-93 to 43 lakhs in 1901-1902. This increase was practically entirely given from Provincial revenues, as the increased expenditure of recent years on education shown in the accounts of district funds is due to the constitution of District Boards in the four districts of the Chota Nagpur Division, and to the assignment to the newly constituted Boards of Provincial funds and not to development of the resources of District Boards. There has been no increase of expenditure on education from Municipal funds. The increased expenditure of recent years has been mainly on account of secondary education, and it is only since an allotment has been made in the current year from Imperial revenues that a substantial increase of expenditure on primary schools has been sanctioned.

The total expenditure from public and private funds taken together on primary schools for Indian boys increased from Rs. 25,91,502 in 1892-93 to Rs. 30,30,128 in 1901-1902, or by 16·9 per cent. The expenditure from Provincial revenues nominally decreased from Rs. 1,42,970 to Rs. 1,14,714 owing to the transfer of grants for primary schools to the district funds for disbursement. The district fund expenditure increased from Rs. 4,02,266 to Rs. 5,82,811, or by 44·8 per cent. The Municipal fund expenditure amounted to Rs. 23,580 in 1892-93; while in the year 1901-1902 it rose to Rs. 54,906, or an increase of 132·8 per cent. The amount of fees increased from Rs. 16,07,433 to Rs. 18,37,302, or by 14·3 per cent. The amount realized from subscriptions and other sources was in 1901-1902 Rs. 4,40,395, against Rs. 4,15,253 in 1892-93. The average annual income of a primary school, which was about Rs. 55 in 1892-93, increased to Rs. 66, or by 20 per cent. in 1901-1902, due to increased contribution from all funds, public and private. With a view to further improve the condition of the teachers of primary

schools in rural areas, an additional sum of four lakhs of rupees has been recently placed at the disposal of the District Boards.

Education.

[Review of Education in Bengal from 1897-98 to 1901-1902 with which is incorporated the information on important points relating to the Annual Report for 1901-1902; Judicial and Administrative statistics of British India, Section X.]

Statistics as to Education generally.

866. The total number of institutions in existence at the end of the year was 61,792, or 350 less than in 1900-1901, and the total number of pupils attending them 1,667,661, or 29,533 more than in the previous year. Primary Schools for boys fell from 46,252 to 45,922, but the number of pupils attending them rose from 1,161,282 to 1,175,933. The number of girls attending Primary Schools also shows an increase from 90,690 to 94,148. The figures for all public institutions are 51,794 with 1,548,022 pupils, as against 52,066 and 1,520,137 in 1900-1901, and for private institutions 9,998 with 119,639 pupils, as compared with 10,076 with 118,191 pupils in the preceding year. Statistics as to the latter class of institutions are, however, incomplete, and hence of little value for the purpose of comparison. The proportion of pupils to estimated population of school going age (14·5) was slightly higher than in 1900-1901, when it was 14·2. Of the various institutions 1,058 with 38,816 pupils were under the management of Government or of Native States, and 210 with 14,039 pupils were under the management of District Boards. Of the institutions under private management 37,968 with 1,183,572 pupils were aided, 12,558 with 311,545 pupils unaided, and 9,998 with 119,639 pupils private institutions.

867. The total expenditure on public institutions during the year was Rs. 1,22,50,475, as compared with Rs. 1,15,75,590 in 1900-1901. The cost to Provincial Revenues increased from Rs. 23,24,458 to Rs. 24,54,517, to Local Funds from Rs. 12,33,990 to Rs. 12,72,291, and to Municipal Funds from Rs. 91,798 to Rs. 98,154. The expenditure from fees rose from Rs. 53,54,283 to Rs. 56,13,834, and from other sources from Rs. 25,71,061 to Rs. 28,11,679. The total direct expenditure was Rs. 94,11,079, and the total indirect expenditure Rs. 28,39,396. Of the direct expenditure, Rs. 42,65,077 were on Secondary and Rs. 33,32,239 on Primary Schools, both figures being considerably above those of the previous year. Under indirect expenditure, the largest items were Inspection (Rs. 6,59,030), Buildings (Rs. 5,62,290), and Miscellaneous (Rs. 10,03,828).

Re-adjustment of scholarships.

868. In order to bring expenditure on educational scholarships in Bengal into accordance with the recommendations of the Education Commission of 1881, to which attention was drawn by the Government of India, the values of the first and second grade senior scholarships tenable in Arts Colleges which have hitherto been Rs. 25 and Rs. 20 have been reduced to Rs. 20 and Rs. 16, respectively, and those of the first, second, and third grade junior scholarships from Rs. 20, 15, and 10 to Rs. 16, 12, and 8, respectively. The rate of Rs. 5 a month hitherto allowed for Middle English Scholarships has been reduced to the rate of Rs. 4 allowed for Middle Vernacular Scholarships, and the terms of tenure for both these scholarships are now fixed at three years, instead of three and four years. With the savings thus effected, 80 additional Upper Primary, and 406 Lower Primary, Scholarships will be created with effect from the year 1904.

Inspection.

869. The Director of Public Instruction spent 39 days on tour during the year, the small amount of touring done being due to the fact that the Director's presence was required at head-quarters for a considerable portion of the year in connection with the work of reporting on the various important educational questions raised by the Simla Conference. Instructions for inspecting officers were issued in April 1901, with the sanction of Government, by which their inspection duties were clearly defined. Excluding the Inspector of European Schools, there were nine Divisional Inspectors, one for each Division, during the year under report. There are six Assistant Inspectors and 52 Deputy Inspectors. The inspection work of most of the 212 Sub-Inspectors

was satisfactory. The Guru Instructors, who number 494, are, as a body, unfavourably reported on. The total expenditure on Direction and Inspection was Rs. 7,32,644.

University Examinations.

870. With regard to success at the various University examinations, the average of success was highest in the case of Colleges under public management, for all the examinations except the M.A., in which Aided Colleges show a slightly higher percentage. Aided Colleges also did well in the B.A. and F.A. examinations. Unaided Colleges, on the other hand, show a percentage of passes as high as 34·5 at the F.A., but at the B.A. examination the proportion has fallen to 18·7 per cent. The number of M.A.'s passing from these Unaided Colleges in 1901-1902 was only two out of the four who went up. The total expenditure on the Calcutta University during the year was Rs. 2,06,298, the whole of which was met from fees.

Arts, Law, and Medical Colleges.

871. The total number of students attending the various Arts Colleges was 8,150, or 49 less than in 1900-1901: 1,937 pupils attended colleges under public management, 1,672 aided colleges, and 4,541 unaided colleges. The expenditure on these colleges amounted to Rs. 8,22,569, and the average cost of each student to Rs. 97. There were during the year 17 Law institutions with 1,510 pupils: 610 candidates appeared at the University Law examinations, of whom 233 passed. The expenditure on Law Colleges (Rs. 16,422) was almost entirely met from fees. There were four Government Medical Schools in existence during the past year, the average number of pupils being 694 (including 45 female pupils). One hundred and twelve passed at the final examination. The total cost of the schools was Rs. 85,710, and the average cost per pupil Rs. 105.

With a view to reduce the expenditure incurred by the State on higher education, the question of enhancing the fees paid by the students of the Medical College in Calcutta was considered, and after consulting the Inspector-General of Hospitals and the Council of the Medical College, it was decided that the annual fee of the College should be raised from Rs. 70 to Rs. 96 (payable in two half-yearly instalments), that a single fee of Rs. 20 should be taken for the special class in Practical Physiology, and a fee of Rs. 6 for each course of lectures on Practical Chemistry. The admission fee, Rs. 15, remains unaltered.

Technical Education.

872. The strength of the Sibpur Engineering College during the year was 90 for the Engineer Department, 169 for the Apprentice Department, 35 for the Artizan class, and 12 for the Agricultural Department, making a total of 306 as against 310 in the preceding year. Out of the 32 candidates who went up for the B.E. and L.E. examinations, nine were successful—one in the first division and eight in the second. The candidate who headed the list at the B.E. examination has proceeded to England for further training in Electrical Engineering, while the remaining eight are undergoing practical training—seven under the Public Works Department and one under the Sanitary Engineer. At the F.E. examination, 11 candidates passed out of the 33 who appeared. Of the more advanced students of the Apprentice Department who completed the prescribed course of practical training in the College Workshops, after qualifying for third-grade Overseers' certificates, two received certificates of Foremen Mechanics and Sub-Engineers, and 20 the certificates granted to Upper Subordinates and Foremen Mechanics. Ten out of the 12 students of the Agricultural Department passed the final examination, on the results of which two were selected for the two guaranteed appointments—one in the Provincial and the other in the Subordinate Executive Service. Six other successful candidates have obtained other appointments under Government. With regard to the selection of a successful Engineering student for the guaranteed appointment of Assistant Engineer in the Public Works Department, it has been decided that a limited number of passed L.E.'s and B.E.'s will be taken yearly by that Department for practical training, after which they will have to undergo, on equal terms with passed students of the Apprentice Department, a practical examination conducted by a Superintending Engineer and two Executive Engineers. The best University graduate who stands first in order of merit at this examination will be offered the appointment of probationary Assistant Engineer, which will be made permanent after a year's approved service. The others, according to position, will be usually appointed as probationary second-grade overseers, or, if of exceptional merit, may be placed in the first grade. Three of the graduates will

receive practical training under the Sanitary Engineer, and two will be offered scholarships to enable them to go through a two years' training in mines or collieries, which will be considered equivalent to one year's practical training in the Public Works Department. Any student still unprovided for will receive training under the Principal in the College workshops and laboratories. To attract boys of the artizan class to the College, and to induce them to stay long enough to become really proficient workmen, monthly stipends of from Re. 1 to Rs. 3 have been sanctioned for artizan apprentices, and a moiety of their earnings at the College will be paid to them on their leaving with a certificate of proficiency.

At the Bihar School of Engineering during the last year five candidates passed the Overseer examination out of 10, 26 passed the Sub-Overseer examination out of 39, and 22 the Amin examination out of 36. Government has guaranteed a Sub-Overseership in the Public Works Department for the most successful Bihari candidate at the Overseership examination.

At the last year's examinations at the Dacca Survey School 25 passed the second-year final examination, 38 the Surveyors' examination, and 89 the first-year examination, winning Amins' certificates.

Training of weavers and carpenters at Serampore.

873. To improve the hand weaving industry of the Province District Boards were invited to send two weavers and one carpenter each to Serampore to receive instruction, the former in the improved system of weaving with the fly-shuttle as there practised, and the latter to be taught the construction of the loom employed in this process. Weavers and carpenters were sent from 21 districts in all. The cost of their journey and their wages for the period of training was borne by the District Boards, Government paying the expenses of their accommodation and instruction. Weavers were instructed for one month and carpenters for two weeks. The District Boards have supplied each of the newly-trained weavers with a Serampore loom.

Secondary Schools.

874. The total number of English Secondary Schools for boys was 1,481 with 191,648 pupils, and of Vernacular Secondary Schools 970 with 53,344 pupils. Of the total number of boys attending Secondary Schools, 35,128 were in the High, 52,478 in the Middle, 63,755 in the Upper Primary, and 93,631 in the Lower Primary grades. As compared with 1900-1901, pupils have increased in all grades, except in the Lower Primary. Of the pupils in English Secondary Schools, 15,313 attended schools under Government management, 4,749 schools under the management of District Boards and Municipalities, 1,231 schools in Native States, 92,691 aided schools, and 77,664 unaided schools. 85·5 per cent. of the boys in these schools were learning English. Of the boys attending Vernacular Secondary Schools, 37,487 were at aided schools. There are two sets of annual examinations to test the work done in Secondary Schools. The University conducts the examination at the close of the High School course, and the Department arranges for the examination of the Middle Schools. At the Matriculation examination 5,675 candidates appeared, of whom 2,856, or 50·3 per cent., passed. Six thousand and twenty-nine candidates appeared at the Middle School examinations, and 3,983, or 66 per cent., were successful. The expenditure on English Secondary Schools amounted to Rs. 33,95,418, of which Provincial Revenues contributed Rs. 3,49,204, Local and Municipal Funds Rs. 1,40,274, fees Rs. 20,08,404, and "other sources" Rs. 8,97,536. The total expenditure on Vernacular Secondary Schools was Rs. 4,00,820, the amounts contributed by Government, Local and Municipal Funds, fees and "other sources" being Rs. 45,524, Rs. 97,161, Rs. 1,67,904, and Rs. 90,221, respectively. The average cost of a boy in a High English School was Rs. 22, in a Middle English School Rs. 12, and in a Vernacular School Rs. 7-8.

Primary Schools.

875. There were altogether 1,212,356 boys attending Primary Schools as against 1,196,003 in 1900-1901. Of these 991,896 were at aided schools and 207,154 at unaided schools. Two different series of examinations are held to test the progress of pupils in the Upper Primary and Lower Primary stages, and on the results of these examinations, which are conducted under the orders of the Divisional Inspector, scholarships are awarded. At the Upper Primary examination there were 11,200 candidates, of whom 6,148, or 54·8 per cent., passed. Corresponding figures for the Lower Primary examination were 67,381, 45,051, and 66·4 per cent. The total cost of Primary schools was Rs. 30,56,309, of which Provincial Revenues contributed Rs. 1,20,487, Local Funds Rs. 5,82,811,

Municipal Funds Rs. 54,906, Fees Rs. 18,47,060, and "other sources" Rs. 4,51,005. The average cost of a pupil in these schools was Rs. 2·7.

876. In the year under review there were in all 1,082 night schools, attended by 19,516 pupils. The Dacca Division has the largest number of these schools, viz., 345 with an average attendance of 16 per school. Fifteen candidates from these schools passed the Lower Primary examination. There were similarly 62 passes from the Chota Nagpur Division, 27 from Burdwan, and 29 from Bhagalpur. The difficulty of getting genuine day-labourers or youths after the day's work to attend schools at night militates against the permanent and efficient working of the system. The number of School Post-offices in existence was 858 as compared with 697 in the preceding year. The experiment, as the whole, has worked satisfactorily. **Night Schools and School Post-offices.**

877. There were in existence during the year 24 Training schools for masters, with 797 pupils; 17 (including the Kurseong Training College) with 558 pupils were Government schools; 6 with 235 pupils aided schools, and 1 with 4 pupils only an unaided school. Training schools for mistresses numbered 9, and the pupils attending them 488. All the schools except one were aided schools. The total expenditure on schools for masters was Rs. 98,172, nearly all of which was met from Provincial Revenues. The expenditure on the schools for mistresses was Rs. 45,149. Four hundred and sixty-nine candidates appeared at the last Vernacular Mastership examination from 1 aided and 8 Government 1st Grade Training Schools against 413 in the preceding year. Of these 306, or 65·5 per cent., passed. Of the candidates from the Training Schools for mistresses at the Junior and Senior Teachership examinations, held by the Inspectress of Girls' Schools, four passed and obtained the senior certificates and 14 obtained the junior certificates. The returns of the year show that the number of teachers employed in Middle English Schools who have passed no recognised standard of education or training, has fallen from 17·4 per cent. in 1900-1901 to 16·7 per cent.; similarly in Upper Primary Schools the percentage of unpassed teachers has fallen from 15·6 to 14·6. These figures show that steady progress is being made in the replacement of untrained by trained teachers. **Training Schools.**

878. In view of the introduction in Primary and Middle Schools, and also in the lower classes of High English Schools, of the new scheme of vernacular education sanctioned by this Government in January 1901, the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, submitted proposals for re-modelling the system of education obtaining in the Vernacular Training Schools of this Province. The proposals were—

(*a*) That more attention be paid to the theory and practice of teaching and school management;

(*b*) That the course of general instruction be reduced;

(*c*) That the course of three years through which the students in these schools are required to pass, be reduced to two years from the end of the session, 1901-1902;

(*d*) That provision be made for the teaching of (i) Kindergarten Principles, (ii) Object Lessons, (iii) Manual Work and Drill, (iv) Elementary Botany, Natural History, Chemistry, and Agriculture, and

(*e*) That the marks allotted to the several subjects of the yearly Vernacular Mastership examination be re-distributed.

These proposals received the sanction of Government.

879. The number of female pupils in Public Institutions during the year was 100,322, as against 96,857 in the previous year. **Female Education.**

The figures for private institutions are not given, as girls attending them are mostly Muhammadan and learn little more than to recite the Koran. Eighty-six per cent. of the pupils in English Secondary Schools are either Europeans or Native Christians. In the Vernacular Secondary Schools, there were no Europeans, but 39·3 per cent. of the pupils were Native Christians. In the Primary Schools 79·6 per cent. were Hindus, 10·9 Muhammadans, and 6·5 Native Christians. The number of female students in Arts Colleges was 55, in Professional Colleges 22, in Training Schools 516, in Medical Schools 43, and in other special schools 78. There were three Arts Colleges for girls in 1901-1902,

viz., the Bethune College, the Loretto House, and La Martinière for girls—all at Calcutta. The Bethune College is the most largely attended of the three, and has 36 pupils. There are 13 High Schools for girls, and the pupils in them number 1,628. Of the 13 schools, six with 548 pupils were for Indian girls, the most important being the Bethune Collegiate School which has 137 pupils, of whom 128 are Hindus, and the remainder Native Christians. The expenditure of the year on Secondary and Primary Schools for girls was Rs. 7,44,769, of which Provincial Revenues contributed Rs. 1,65,679, and the average cost of a pupil in the Primary Schools was Rs. 4-9.

European Education.

880. The total number of European and Eurasian pupils during the year was 8,029. Of these 207 attended Arts Colleges, 6,548 Secondary Schools, 1,202 Primary Schools, and 72 special schools. One European passed the B.A. examination, and 9 the F.A. during the year. The expenditure on Secondary and Primary Schools for Europeans amounted to Rs. 9,50,253, of which Provincial Revenues met Rs. 1,74,818. To provide, as far as possible, for the practical education of European boys in India, sanction was given to the opening of practical or technical classes at the Victoria Boys' School, Kurseong. These classes will teach the first two years' course of the Apprentice Department of the Sibpur College, and boys will be drafted from Kurseong to Sibpur after passing the Sub-Overseers' examination and will thus be enabled to qualify as Overseers after a residence of one year only in the plains.

Muhammadan Education.

881. Muhammadans under instruction in public and private institutions numbered 462,674: 387,839 were in public institutions, and 74,835 in private institutions. Four-hundred and ninety-one attended Arts Colleges, 93 Professional Colleges, 35,831 Secondary Schools, and 346,764 Primary Schools. Three Muhammadans passed the M.A. examination and 23 the B.A. The results of the Departmental examinations were satisfactory. It having been reported by the Director of Public Instruction that in certain districts the District Boards had not appointed Muhammandans as Inspecting Pandits or Guru Instructors in due proportion to the Muhammadan population of the district, orders were issued by Government laying down for 26 districts the proportion in which Hindus and Muhammadans should be appointed to such office.

Education of Aborigines.

882. Aboriginal pupils numbered 27,798: nearly half of this number attended schools in Chota Nagpur. The number of Christian aborigines was a little over one-fourth of the whole number. The results of the examinations of these pupils were satisfactory: 5 passed the Entrance, 39 the Middle, 93 the Upper Primary and 787 the Lower Primary examinations.

Hostels.

883. The number of hostels in existence during the year was 316 with 11,341 boarders, and the expenditure on them Rs. 8,67,719, of which Rs. 40,416 were met from public and Rs. 8,27,303 from private funds. The two most important hostels under Government management are the Eden Hindu Hostel, maintained in connection with the Presidency College and Hindu and Hare Schools, and the Elliott Madrasah Hostel attached to the Calcutta Madrasah. The total number of inmates in the former was 237 and in the latter 100. Among hostels for females that attached to the Bethune College had 31 inmates, the total cost of which was Rs. 4,927.

Medical charge of Colleges, Hostels, and Boarding-schools.

884. In 1867 provision was made for medical attendance on Students, Professors, and Teachers of Provincial Colleges, and the Medical Officers entrusted with this duty were granted an additional allowance for it. Circumstances having materially changed since 1867, the necessity of continuing this arrangement came under the consideration of Government, and after consulting the Director of Public Instruction and the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, a proposal to discontinue the allowance now paid to Assistant Surgeons and Civil Hospital Assistants for the medical charge of Government Colleges and schools, and to grant an allowance for the medical charge of Government hostels and boarding-schools, was submitted to the Government of India for sanction.

Reformatory Schools.

[Annual Report on the Reformatory Schools at Alipore and Hazaribagh for 1901; Judicial Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XI.]

Population.

885. The total number of boys in the two schools on the 31st December 1900 was 407, of whom 194 were at the Alipore and 213 at the Hazaribagh

School. There were 75 admissions during the year under report at Alipore and 45 at Hazaribagh. The number released during the year from both schools was 99—73 on expiry of the term of detention, 16 on appeal and attaining the age of 18 years, 8 under orders of Government, 1 by transfer and 1 by death. On the 31st December 1901 there remained 428—228 at Alipore and 200 at Hazaribagh. Of these 259 were Hindus, 154 Muhammadans, 10 Christians and 5 aboriginals. The Alipore School was full during the latter part of the year, and so in several cases the admission of boys had to be refused.

In accordance with the orders of Government the Boards of Management of the two schools examined the list of admissions in 1900 and 1901, and reported to Government all cases of boys who, in their opinion, could have been more suitably discharged on probation of good conduct under section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code, or after due admonition under section 31 of the Reformatories Act of 1897. Orders on the recommendations made have been communicated to the schools, and the Boards of Management have been asked to continue to scrutinise future admissions, and submit their recommendations on them to Government.

Health, Discipline and Education.

886. The health of the boys in both schools was good; the admissions to hospital in the Hazaribagh School showed a slight increase. Punishments were more frequent in the Alipore School than at Hazaribagh, and discipline appears not to be so good in the former school. Satisfactory progress has been made in both schools in elementary education. Drill and gymnastics are included in the training, and games are played.

Industries.

887. In accordance with the system inaugurated last year of concentrating, as far as possible, boys of agricultural castes at Hazaribagh and those of industrial castes at Alipore, 41 boys were regularly employed at Hazaribagh on cultivation and 21 boys on market-gardening, but at certain seasons of the year nearly all the boys were employed on agricultural work. These arrangements are in accordance with the orders of Government. There was a considerable decrease at both schools in the profits from manufactures, those at Alipore falling from Rs. 10,766 in 1900 to Rs. 7,959, and those at Hazaribagh from Rs. 5,559 to Rs. 2,016. This result was fully anticipated in the orders passed on the reports of the schools for 1899 and 1900, when it was directed that industries should be taught to the boys, preferably the trades of their castes, which would be useful to them in after-life. At Alipore, in spite of the decrease in the profits from manufactures noticed above, these orders have not been carried out, and the attention of the Director of Public Instruction, as well as of the Board of Management, has again been called to them. During the year under review 5 boys from the Alipore School were licensed out for work in the upper Hooghly Mills, and there is probability of the system being extended. From the Hazaribagh School 34 boys were licensed out as against 12 in the preceding year.

Careers of released Boys.

888. The efforts of the Educational Department to follow up the history of every boy for three years after his release were more successful during the year under review than in the previous year. The percentage of failure to trace out the boys after their release to the total number discharged in 1900 was 24 per cent., as against 34 and 33 per cent. in the years 1899 and 1898. The results are, however, still capable of improvement; and it is hoped that the procedure now adopted, of releasing boys in the presence of an Educational Officer, will lead to greater success in this respect.

Financial Results.

889. The net cost to Government on account of the Alipore School was Rs. 17,651, against Rs. 11,620 in 1900, and that on account of the Hazaribagh School Rs. 20,376, against Rs. 16,293.

Literature and the Press.

[Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section XII.]

890. The total number of English newspapers published in the Lower Provinces during 1901 was 45, and the total number of English periodicals was 29. There were fifty-two Vernacular and 2 Anglo-Vernacular newspapers.

Publications of the Bengal Secretariat Press.

891. The following more important publications, other than Annual Reports, were published during the year by the Bengal Secretariat Press:—

(1) Survey and Settlement Manual, 1900.
(2) The District Officers' Handy Reference Book corrected up to June 1901.
(3) A Monograph on Ivory Carving in Bengal.
(4) Rules under the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885, as amended by Act III (B.C.) of 1898, with the Board's Instructions thereon.
(5) Course of Lectures on Hygiene, by Dr. N. Cook.
(6) Yig Kur Nam Shaq, by Rai Sarat Chandra Das Bahadur, C.I.E.
(7) Electric Lighting, "B" Regulations.
(8) Electric Lighting Rules.
(9) A Book of Rules for the Sone Canals.
(10) The Mechanical Shipment of Coal.
(11) Rules, Forms and Schedules under the Assam Labour and Emigration Act VI of 1901.
(12) Embankment Committee's Report of 1839-40 in the District of Midnapore. (Republished.)

Bengal Library.

892. The number of publications received and catalogued in the Bengal Library during the year 1901 was 3,069, as against 2,590 in the year before, showing an increase of about 18·49 per cent., the result, probably, of the prosecutions instituted against defaulting printers. Out of 3,069 publications received last year, 2,228 were books and 841 periodicals. Of the books 1,909 were original publications, 73 republications and 246 translations: 1,037 were in Bengali, 353 in English, 90 in Sanskrit, 99 in Hindi, 64 in Musalmani-Bengali, 26 in Urdu, 153 in Uriya and 36 in Assamese. Publications in two, three, or four languages numbered, respectively, 327, 22 and 2. The Biographical literature of the year, mostly in Bengali, comprised a good many readable books. Under Drama, several translations of the classic dramas of India, and translations or adaptations of the works of European dramatists appeared in Bengali. Most of the Bengali Fiction of the year deals with domestic life in Bengal, and displays little conception or development of plot. Under History, the most important publications of the year were a most interesting and well-written book on the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal (1854—1898), by the Hon'ble Mr. C. E. Buckland, "The Great Anarchy," by H. G. Keene, and a History of Bengal (18th century), by Babu Kali Prossanna Banerjee. A number of books on Philosophy were issued in Sanskrit and Bengali. The most marked feature of the Poetry of the year was the prevalence of lyrics and sonnets and the decadence of epic poetry. A large number of the poems published gave expression to grief at the death of Her late Imperial Majesty Queen Victoria, and appreciation of her virtues. As usual, there was a large quantity of literature on religious subjects—most of the books on scientific subjects were of little interest.

Periodicals.

893. Eight hundred and forty-one periodicals were received in the Bengal Library during the year under review, as against 696 in the preceding year. They represent 134 distinct issues as against 118 in the year before, and were written 85 in Bengali, 35 in English, 1 in Garo, 3 in Hindi, 1 in Sanskrit, 1 in Urdu, 1 in Arabic and Bengali, 1 in Bengali and English, 5 in Bengali and Sanskrit, and 1 in English and Sanskrit. They were grouped under the heads of Art, Law, Medicines, Miscellaneous, Poetry, Religion and Science (Natural). Forty-eight new journals were received and 32 old ones disappeared in the course of the year. Of the new journals 1 is devoted to Art, 2 to Medicine, 3 to Agriculture, 4 to Religion and the rest treat of miscellaneous matters. Of these latter the *Vangadarsan* (The Mirror of Bengal) and the *Mahajana-Bandhu* (The Merchant's Friend) deserve special notice. Among the old journals written in Bengali the *Sahitya* developed a scientific and the *Navyabharat* a philosophic character, while the *Bharati* recovered to a great extent the place it had lost, under the editorship of Babu Ravindranáth Thákur. Literary activity among the Muhammadans is on the increase, and 3 Muhammadan journals, viz., the *Lahari*, the *Pracharak* and the *Islam-Pracharak* continued to be fairly well written.

Of the new journals started in English *The Twentieth Century*, discussing literary and philosophic subjects, deserves mention. The journals written in other languages showed no special features.

Working of Act XXV of 1867 as amended by Act X of 1890.

894. During the year 3,865 publications were delivered under section 9 of the Act as compared with 3,434 in the preceding year, showing an increase of 431, or 12·55 per cent. Of those delivered 2,201 were registered in the office of the Inspector-General of Registration, and the remainder (1,664) at Sub-Registry offices in the mufassal. The total fees realised from the registration of copyrights amounted to Rs. 128 as against Rs. 148 in the year before. Twenty-one prosecutions were reported during the year under review, 17 of which ended in convictions, in which the printers were fined from Rs. 2 to Rs. 25.

Transfer of the Calcutta Public Library to Government.

895. With a view to establishing an Imperial Library in Calcutta, the Government of India offered to purchase the rights of the proprietors of the Calcutta Public Library in the Metcalfe Hall on the conditions— (i) That a payment of Rs. 530 for each existing share should be made to the Council of the Public Library, for distribution to all the existing proprietors, who were fifty-eight in number, and (ii) that the existing proprietors should be allowed, during their lifetime the privilege of taking out of the Library, for perusal at home, books which formerly belonged to the Calcutta Public Library and now form part of the Imperial Library. The Council of the Calcutta Public Library accepted these terms, and Government entered into possession on the 2nd February 1902.

Scientific and Literary Societies in Bengal.

896. The returns show 144 such Societies in Bengal in the year 1901-1902 against 80 in 1892-93. Their number in the Burdwan and the Rajshahi Divisions increased respectively from 9 and 11 to 19 each; the Dacca Division shows an increase from 16 to 22; the Patna Division from 5 to 25; the Bhagalpur Division from 5 to 7; the Orissa Division from 11 to 18; while the Presidency Division, including Calcutta, shows a decrease from 17 to 15. The Chittagong Division returned 13 such Societies against none in the year 1892-93, while their number (6) remains unaltered in the Chota Nagpur Division. The number of members attending these Societies has increased from 56,819 in 1892-93 to 87,717 in 1901-1902.

Burdwan Division.

897. Almost all these Societies in the Burdwan Division are only public libraries intended to encourage the habit of reading. The most important of these are (1) the Serampore Public Library, the members of which hold regular meetings with a view to promote their welfare and to discuss various questions unconnected with religion, politics, and local questions; and (2) the Uttarpara Hitakari Sabha, whose chief objects are to educate the poor, to distribute medicine to the indigent sick, to support poor widows and orphans, to encourage female education, and to improve the condition of the people of Uttarpara and its adjoining places.

Presidency Division.

898. The Societies in the Presidency Division, which are likewise generally public libraries intended for promotion of the knowledge of Literature—English, Sanskrit, and Bengali—are mostly situated in the town of Calcutta.

The most prominent and most influential of the Literary Societies in the Province is the Asiatic Society of Bengal. This is well known throughout Europe in scientific circles, and has done most important work during the 119 years of its existence.

Its objects are those described in the language of its founder, Sir William Jones :—

"The bounds of its investigations will be the geographical limits of Asia, and within those limits its enquiries will be extended to whatever is performed by man or produced by Nature.

"It will flourish, if naturalists, chemists, antiquarians, philologers, and men of science in different parts of Asia will commit their observations to writing, and send them to the Asiatic Society at Calcutta. It will languish, if such communications shall be long intermitted; and it will die away if they shall entirely cease."

Its income is Rs. 14,500, of which Rs. 2,000 is contributed by Government. It administers two Government funds:—

(1) Oriental Publication Fund, Rs. 9,000 per annum.
(2) Sanskrit Manuscript Fund, „ 3,200 „ „

Next in importance are (1) the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India, which is intended for the development of agriculture and horticulture, and (2) the Indian Industrial Association with 250 members, the objects of which are to adopt means for the spread of technical education and technical knowledge by—

(1) Collection of information about Indian products and manufactures.
(2) Pointing out new openings for industrial enterprise and facilitating the establishment of new industries.

Rajshahi Division.

899. All the Societies in the Rajshahi Division are only public libraries intended either for the spread of the knowledge of Literature, or for the cultivation of morals through essay writing and oral discussion, and of the power of speech and reasoning. The most prominent of these is the Central National Muhammadan Association (Rangpur Branch), the object of which is to improve the social condition and education of the Muhammadans of the district, to maintain a hostel for poor Muhammadan boys reading in the Rangpur Madrasah and in the local schools, and to spread primary education through the muktabs.

Dacca Division.

900. The Societies in the Dacca Division are also public libraries intended for literary and moral culture, and for the propagation of Sanskrit learning and Hindu religion. The only one worthy of special notice is the Students' Union attached to the Braja Mohan Institution, Barisal. Its object is to help the work of the Institution by organising a debating club among students and by adopting other measures for the intellectual and physical improvement of students.

Chittagong Division.

901. The Societies in the Chittagong Division are also mostly public libraries. There are two Societies, which are intended for Muhammadans only, viz., the Islam Association and the Muhammadan Education Society.

Patna Division.

902. The Societies in the Patna Division are of a similar character, though some of them are libraries of law books and books of reference used by pleaders. Of these, the Hathwa Raj Library deserves some special mention, as it is intended for the benefit of English-knowing employés of the Raj and also for European lessees of Raj lands. The Library bungalow is a gift of the late Maharaja Chhattradhari Sahu Bahadur of Hathwa.

Bhagalpur, Chota Nagpur and Orissa Divisions.

903. The Societies of the Bhagalpur, Chota Nagpur, and Orissa Divisions are also mostly public libraries, intended to foster a habit of reading. In the Bhagalpur Division the Malda Muhammadan Association looks to the social, political, and educational condition of the Muhammadans of Malda. In the Orissa Division some Societies are intended to help in the revival of Sanskrit learning and of the Hindu or Muhammadan religion. The Societies in the Chota Nagpur Division are generally Bar libraries for the use of pleaders.

Arts and Sciences.

Art.

904. The Government School of Art at Calcutta has lately been considerably developed. The system of fresco-painting, the teaching of which has originated from the school, seems to be appreciated. Two unaided schools of Art have been started at Calcutta. The total number of pupils in the three schools was 304 on 31st March 1902.

The Government Art Gallery attached to the School of Art, in which Art specimens purchased by Government are kept, has been re-arranged so as to be "illustrative of the historical development of Art from its beginning in pure ornament to its highest finish in what is called 'Fine Art.'" An annual Art exhibition held in connection with the School of Art serves also to give a stimulus to education in Art. The teaching of drawing, which was at first introduced in High Schools as an optional subject, has now been made compulsory, and the study of the subject has been extended to all schools, Primary and Secondary. Drawing is also taught in Training Schools for Masters, and the successful students are granted certificates for special

proficiency. The Superintendent of the School of Art is deputed to inspect the Training Schools so far as the teaching of this subject is concerned.

The Government expenditure incurred on the Government School of Art has amounted to Rs. 34,528 in 1901-1902.

905. Under the new Vernacular Education Scheme, recently introduced, the scope of teaching Science has been very considerably widened, and Science primers, specially written, have been prescribed for all the stages from the Lower Primary to the Middle. The bifurcation of studies in High Schools has created what are called the B and C classes, the course of studies in both of which extends over two years, after which the boys have to appear at a special examination, the former comprising subjects leading up to the Apprentice Department of the Sibpur Civil Engineering College, and the latter subjects relating to a Commercial training. Classes have actually been opened in the Hare School, Uttarpara Government School, and Patna, Dacca and Hooghly Collegiate Schools to teach the C course, and in the Dacca, Patna and Midnapore Collegiate Schools, and in Ranchi, Comilla, Mymensingh, Rangpur, Barisal and Pâbna Zilla Schools to teach the B course. Success at either of the examinations is considered as equal to passing the Entrance examination of the Calcutta University. A scheme for the further training of successful C-class students for two years has also been sanctioned, and the classes will be opened shortly. Students passing this final examination will be held to be equal in qualification to those who have passed the F.A. examination of the University. A more prominent place has been found for Science in the Arts courses of the Calcutta University. Sanitation and Physiology have been introduced in the F.A. course as optional subjects, and Chemistry has been made compulsory. The creation of the degrees of B.Sc. and D.Sc. has also given a great impetus to scientific education and training. The affiliation of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science has given it a definite status, and has thereby made it far more useful. Large expenditure has been incurred by the State to start and equip Chemical, Physical, Physiological, Geological and Bacteriological laboratories. Special classes have been opened at the Sibpur Civil Engineering College for teaching Electrical and Mining Engineering, Scientific Agriculture and Geology, while Technical and Artizan schools and classes have been fostered by monthly grants and by the creation of stipends and scholarships. The establishment of the Bihar School of Engineering and the raising of its status to that of a college and proposals of a similar kind for an Engineering school at Dacca, the workshops of which will be worked by electricity, help the spread of scientific instruction. Science.

906. Post-graduate Research scholarships, each of the value of Rs. 100 a month, for three years, have been created to foster original research by distinguished graduates in Science of the University, and the scholars are allowed free access to the laboratories of the Presidency College. Last, but not least, is the creation of a Research scholarship of the annual value of Rs. 2,000 for Dr. J. C. Bose, and of research grants to Dr. J. C. Bose and to Dr. P. C. Ray of the annual value of Rs. 2,500 and Rs. 1,000, respectively. The grant to Dr. Ray is made for original work in Chemistry. A grant of the value of Rs. 300 per annum for two years has been sanctioned for Assistant Surgeon Sarasi Lal Sarkar of the Chemical Examiner's Department, Medical College, for continuing his researches in Mathematical subjects.

907. In December 1899, the British Association for the advancement of Science suggested that opportunity should be taken to collect ethnographical information by means of the census of 1901. The scheme was sanctioned by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Government of India.

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

Work during the Year.

908. A good deal of work was done during the year to arrest further decay in, and in some cases to restore, certain of the ancient temples, tombs and other interesting ruins in the Province.

The most important work was that executed at Gaur and Pandua, in Malda. Steps were taken for the preservation of the Lattan Mosque, Bara-durwaza, Tantipara Mosque and the Dakhil Gate of the Old Fort at Gaur, and of the Ek-lakhi Mosque and Sona Musjid at Pandua. In the case of the Adina Mosque at Pandua, portions are being restored, viz., the Badsha-ki-takhth, and the bays immediately to the east and west of it, the north inner wall and the arches facing the east, the southern wall of the transept and a part of the wall to the south-east of the transept. A new arcade is being constructed to receive the thrust of the arches carrying the domes above the Badsha-ki-takhth; and repairs have been carried out to the pulpit in the transept, including the replacing of the step, which has been returned by the Indian Museum. The total expenditure incurred during the year on the ruins at Gaur and Pandua was Rs. 20,502.

At Bhubaneswar, in the Puri district, repairs to the great Lingaraj Temple and to some other selected temples were in progress, and were nearly finished. Some petty repairs to the caves at Khandagiri were carried out, and a shade to protect the inscription at the Elephant Cave, or Hathi Gumpha, was under construction. The sand accumulated in the courtyard of the Black Pagoda, or Kanarak Temple, which is on the sea-shore about 20 miles from Puri, has been partly cleared, bringing to view some very interesting carved work at the base. The mound to the east of the Jagamohan, or Hall of Audience, has been partially cleared, disclosing the walls of the Bhagmandap, or Hall of offerings. Here also there is carved work of interest.

Materials were collected with a view to preserving the Rohtas Fort and Palace in the Shahabad district. Wire-netting to keep out bats was fixed to the openings of the main buildings of Sher Shah's tomb and Hasan Sur Shah's tomb at Sasaram.

The restoration of the walls of the clock-tower gate and of the Patna gate of the Old Fort at Monghyr, and the repairs to the river side bastions and the north gate, were completed at a total cost of Rs. 7,298. Syed Shah Nuffa Medney's Dargah at Monghyr was repaired.

At Calcutta the work of demarcating points of interest of the Old Fort of 1756 which was commenced in the previous year has been completed at a cost of Rs. 13,636, and the foundations were laid of the replica in marble of the Holwell monument which the Viceroy is presenting to the City of Calcutta.

Commemoration of houses or buildings of historic interest in Bengal.

909. The Government of India having suggested the commemoration of the houses in which distinguished public men, whether European or native, have resided during different portions of their careers, a list of such houses in Bengal has been compiled and submitted to the Government of India.

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

910. By the Statute 53, Geo. III, Chapter 155, provision was made for the appointment of a single Bishop for the whole of India, and the Sovereign was empowered to grant to the Bishop such ecclesiastical jurisdiction and the exercise of such episcopal functions as His Majesty might think necessary for the administration of holy ceremonies and for the superintendence and good government of the ministers of the Church establishment. Under the authority of this statute Letters Patent for the Bishopric of Calcutta were issued under the date of the 2nd of May 1814, establishing the See of Calcutta, subordinate to the Archiepiscopal See of the Province of Canterbury and constituting the Archdeaconry of Calcutta. The Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature at Calcutta and the Members of the Council were appointed the King's Commissioners delegate to hear appeals from the decisions of the Bishop and his Commissaries. **Bishop of Calcutta and Archdeacon of Calcutta, 1814.**

911. The Statutes 3 and 4, Will. IV, Chapter 85, empowered the Sovereign to found and constitute the Bishoprics of Madras and Bombay, and constituted the Bishop of Calcutta Metropolitan. The Bishoprics of Madras and Bombay were accordingly constituted by Letters Patent, leaving the Metropolitical jurisdiction with the Bishop of Calcutta. The jurisdiction of the Metropolitan has also been further curtailed by the subsequent formation of the Bishoprics of Lahore, Rangoon and Lucknow. **Bishop of Calcutta Metropolitan, 1835.**

912. In 1889 license was issued by the Crown for the appointment of an Assistant Bishop to the Bishop of Calcutta to exercise episcopal functions in Chota Nagpur. **Bishop of Chota Nagpur, 1889.**

913. The Statutes 3 and 4, Will. IV, Chapter 85, also provided for the appointment of two Chaplains of the Church of Scotland, to be inducted and ordained by the Presbytery of Edinburgh according to the forms and solemnities used in the Church of Scotland, and to be subject to the spiritual and ecclesiastical jurisdiction in all things of the Presbytery of Edinburgh. **Chaplains of the Church of Scotland, 1835.**

Ecclesiastical.

914. The Ecclesiastical establishment in Bengal in 1901 paid entirely or in part by Government consisted of the Lord Bishop of Calcutta, the Archdeacon of Calcutta, the Domestic Chaplain to the Lord Bishop, the Registrar of the Diocese and Archdeaconry of Calcutta, the Most Rev. Archbishop Dr. B. Meuleman, S.J., 17 Chaplains of the Church of England, 1 Chaplain of the Church of Scotland, 13 Ministers of the Additional Clergy Society or other Societies, and 7 Priests of the Roman Catholic Church.

In the Church of England during the year there were 397 baptisms performed and 155 marriages solemnized, and in the Church of Rome 386 baptisms and 102 marriages: corresponding figures for the Church of Scotland were 24 and 17, for Non-Conformist Churches 36 and 81, and for the Portuguese Church 14 and 3.

Stationery.

[Triennial Report on the operations of the Bengal Stationery Department for 1899—1902, with annual statistics for 1901-1902.]

915. There was a balance at the beginning of the year of Rs. 8,59,465; and stores to the value of Rs. 36,34,970 were received, making a total of Rs. 44,94,435. Issues amounted to Rs. 34,85,382, leaving a balance at the end of the year of Rs. 10,09,053. **Working of the Department.**

The value of stores received from England (Rs. 6,48,428) showed an increase of nearly 18 per cent. compared with the previous year. The principal increases were under writing paper, and drawing, writing and

binding materials. A large decrease of 83·4 per cent. in the value of press copying materials imported, and of 47·5 per cent. in that of paper of 'other kinds' has not been explained, but the figures of the preceding year were unduly heavy in respect of those two items. Under the first head, the apparent decline in expenditure is to some extent counterbalanced by an increase of 46·3 per cent., in the value of press-copying materials purchased locally. Similarly there was an increase of nearly 6½ per cent. on the total value of country-made papers received from the Indian mills, contributed chiefly under the heads white printing, half-bleached, and cream-wove. Country-made miscellaneous articles return an increase of 9 per cent., and binding materials of nearly 19 per cent. A decrease of 48·3 per cent. in the value of water-marked paper supplied by the local manufacturers is presumably due to the more favourable terms upon which the contract for the supply of it was resettled.

English articles were purchased locally to the extent of nearly more than 70 per cent. above the purchases of 1900-1901, the result chiefly of local purchases of type-writers. Imperial issues (Rs. 13,46,209) were higher than in the preceding year by nearly 10 per cent. Provincial issues (Rs. 17,00,832) by over 20 per cent., and local issues (Rs. 2,18,293) by over 50 per cent. The principal increases were under the printing presses of the Governments of India, Bengal, United Provinces, and the Punjab, in the consumption of white-printing half-bleached, writing and binding papers, parchment and binding materials.

The increase of over 17 per cent. in the value of the closing balance as compared with the figures for 1900-1901 is chiefly due to the arrival from England of almost all stores for use during 1902-1903 before the close of the year. The stock of articles of country manufacture was reduced to the lowest possible limit.

Committees.

916. Two Committees sat during the year 1901-1902 for the discussion of details of departmental organisation. One presided over by the Honourable Mr. Bolton considered the proposal to transfer the work of despatching forms from the Stationery to the Printing Department, and, while recommending no change in the present procedure in that respect, put forward certain other suggestions, some of which have already been given effect to with the approval of Government, and others are pending the decision of Government upon the larger proposals for reorganisation referred to above. The other Committee, presided over by Mr. O'Conor, held an enquiry into the system of supplying paper for the public service, and their recommendations were accepted generally by Government.

Printing.

[Report of Superintendent of Government Printing, Bengal, for 1901-1902.]

917. The working of the Printing Presses under the Government of Bengal during the year shows an outturn of Rs. 5,99,296, and an expenditure of Rs. 5,18,620, or a profit of Rs. 80,676, which is Rs. 9,292 in excess of that realised during the previous year. The Secretariat Press returns a profit of Rs. 44,173, the convict division of the Presidency Jail Press one of Rs. 25,116, and the paid division of the same Press one of Rs. 12,838. The Tour press as usual shows a loss this year of Rs. 1,991. In the publishing department which is under the Book Depôt, receipts have diminshed by Rs 11,881 chiefly under *Calcutta Gazette* (Rs. 5,806) and Indian Law Reports (Rs. 5,439). Semi-Government printing and press sales on the other hand show increased receipts of Rs. 4,694 and Rs. 507, respectively. A new departure was made by the inspection of the Secretariat and Jail Presses by the Examiner of Government Press Accounts.

Chemical Examiner's Department.

[Report of the Chemical Examiner for 1901; Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, Section VIII, Medico-Legal Investigations.]

918. During the year 4,878 analyses were performed, as compared with 4,331 in 1900. Of these, 2,358 were done by the General Department of the laboratory and 2,520 by the Medico-Legal Department. The General Department shows an increase of 111 analyses, and the Medico-Legal Department one of 436.

Samples of kerosine-oil, tinned meat, sugar, spirits and ghi were examined during the year, and tests made of explosives. One hundred and forty-nine samples of drinking-water were analysed, all quantitatively; of these 2 samples were classed as good, 91 as usable or fair, 30 as suspicious and 26 as impure.

As usual, a number of references of considerable variety was made to the Chemical Examiner on special points. The viscera of 414 individuals suspected to have been poisoned were examined in 1901, as compared with 408 in 1900. These include nine viscera sent up for examination in connection with abortion cases. Poison was detected in 197 viscera, or 47·58 per cent., as compared with 53·43 per cent. in the previous year. This decrease is most probably accounted for by the number of cases referred in which death was clearly due to natural causes, or to accidents.

The most common poison was, as usual, opium. It was found in 91·5 cases or, including morphine, 98·5 cases, *i.e.*, 23·79 per cent. of the total number of cases of suspected human fatal poisoning, as compared with 29·61 per cent. in 1900 or, excluding morphine, in 22·10 per cent. of the total. Arsenic is next in frequency, and it was detected in 50·5 cases, or 12·19 per cent., as compared with 47·5 cases, 11·64 per cent., in the previous year. The percentage of detection of the other chief poisons for the year was alcohol, 5·67; aconite, 1·93; other vegetable poisons, such as yellow oleander, strychnine, atropine, 3·38; mercury, ·12, and hydrocyanic acid, ·24 per cent.

The viscera of 214 horned cattle were examined, as against 203 in the preceding year. In 76·16 per cent. of these cases arsenic was detected. Five hundred and ninety-eight articles, as against 397 in 1900, were examined for human blood and seminal and other stains.

Veterinary Department.

[Report of the Civil Veterinary Department, Bengal, and of the Bengal Veterinary College for year 1901-1902.]

Veterinary Dispensaries.

919. The year under review was marked by an important increase in the number of veterinary dispensaries from twelve to nineteen; and the number of patients treated, viz., 737 in-patients and 8,892 out-patients, was more than double that of the preceding year. Good accounts are given of the veterinary dispensaries at Howrah, Gaya, Sitamarhi, Darbhanga, Patna, Balasore, Dumraon, Muzaffarpur and Chittagong, and at Monghyr the new dispensary building has been built entirely from funds raised by public subscription. Government in its Resolution No. 4051, dated 10th December 1901, has undertaken on certain conditions to contribute one-half of the expenses incurred by District Boards in the maintenance of veterinary dispensaries, and one-sixth in the case of dispensaries maintained jointly by District Boards and Municipalities. The application from the Cuttack Dispensary for assistance is under consideration.

Epidemic Diseases.

920. The Government of India, in commenting on last year's report, expressed the fear that glanders is very rife in Calcutta, and stated that they trusted that measures to check this disease would shortly be brought into force. The figures available support the conclusion that glanders and farcy are prevalent both in Calcutta and in the districts. Altogether at the instance of public officers 51 horses were destroyed on account of this disease last year. It has been reported to the Government of India that the introduction of Act XIII of 1889 into Calcutta, in supersession of Act VIII (B. C.) of 1880, will involve an annual expenditure of Rs. 10,000 with a probable increase in the near future, and that, therefore, on financial grounds, its introduction must await the next revision of the Provincial contract.

The year under review showed a marked decrease in reported cattle-disease; but rinderpest was again rife in Birbhum, and there were severe outbreaks in Khulna, Gaya and Hazaribagh, where the number of cattle attacked exceeded 2,000 in each district. In Murshidabad, Chittagong, Shahabad, Palamau and Manbhum over 1,000 cases were reported in each district. The Veterinary Assistants were able to immunise 12,829 head of cattle during the year, and could have done more work under this head if more serum had been available: there was no friction between the operators and the owners of cattle. Under recent orders from the Government of India instruction in rinderpest inoculation will in future be imparted to Veterinary Assistants at Muktesar and Bareilly. It has accordingly been arranged to send this year four assistants monthly for instruction until 24 have been trained.

Improvement of stock.

921. It is trusted that the attempt made by the importation by the Civil Veterinary Department, and by the District Board of Patna, of Australian cows and bulls to improve the Patna breed of milch cattle may be successful. Of the animals imported by the Veterinary Department, two unfortunately died soon after their arrival.

The Veterinary College.

922. The session opened with 47 students in the three classes, of whom 5 were Muhammadans. Withdrawal and removal reduced the total number to 35. The results of the examination at the end of the year were creditable both to the students and the lecturers. All the students in the three classes held stipends provided either by Government, or District Boards and Municipalities or private individuals. Since the close of the year the rules for admission to the College have been revised, and the curriculum of studies modified on the lines suggested by the Umballa Veterinary Conference of 1900.

The Belgachia Infirmary.

923. There was a decrease in the number of in-patients and out-patients in the Belgachia Infirmary. The fees for admission have, however, been recently reduced in the case of horses and ponies belonging to persons of small means and hackney-carriage drivers, and the fee charged to cartmen, *goalas* and pack-bullock drivers for the treatment of their cattle has been reduced by one-half. This should improve the use of the institution. During the year the hospital was declared to be an infirmary for the purposes of the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and it now takes the place of the Entally Contagious Diseases Animal Hospital which has been closed with the consent of the Calcutta Corporation. Revised rules in supersession of those published in 1886 have been issued under section 5 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1880, the Bengal Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act.

Financial.

924. The cost of maintaining the Department exceeded that of last year by about Rs. 11,000. This was chiefly due to increased establishment, increased travelling of the Inspectors, increased rent of land, charges on account of fencing the College grounds, and purchase of models and specimens.

Zoological Garden.

[Report on the management of the Zoological Garden, Calcutta, for the year 1901-1902.]

925. The following were the chief donations received during the year:— Rs. 10,000 from Maharaja Surya Kanta Acharya, of Mymensingh, for the construction of an open-air enclosure for the larger carnivorous animals behind the Burdwan House; Rs. 4,000 from Rai Bahadur Camaleshwari Prasad Singh of Monghyr, and Rs. 3,600 from the Burdwan Raj Estate for repairing the Burdwan House. The total donations and subscriptions received during the year amounted to Rs. 20,691, against Rs. 17,588 received in the previous year. The total number of visitors was 182,310, exclusive of students, members of charitable institutions and children, who were admitted free of charge, and the total entrance receipts were Rs. 14,242. The expenditure under "Establishment" amounted to Rs. 13,041; under "Cost of Feeding the Animals" to Rs. 14,372; under "Purchase and Transport of Animals" to Rs. 3,725; under "Repairs to Houses and Roads," Rs. 18,649, and under "Original Construction" to Rs. 15,493. The following were the chief animals born in the garden during the year:— Two spotted and 1 Sambur deer, 1 Rhesus monkey, 1 Banting calf and 3 Andaman pigs. One hundred and thirty-two mammals, 250 birds and 105 reptiles were added to the collection, which now consists of 490 mammals, 914 birds and 240 reptiles.

Miscellaneous.

Examination for the Provincial and Subordinate Civil Services.

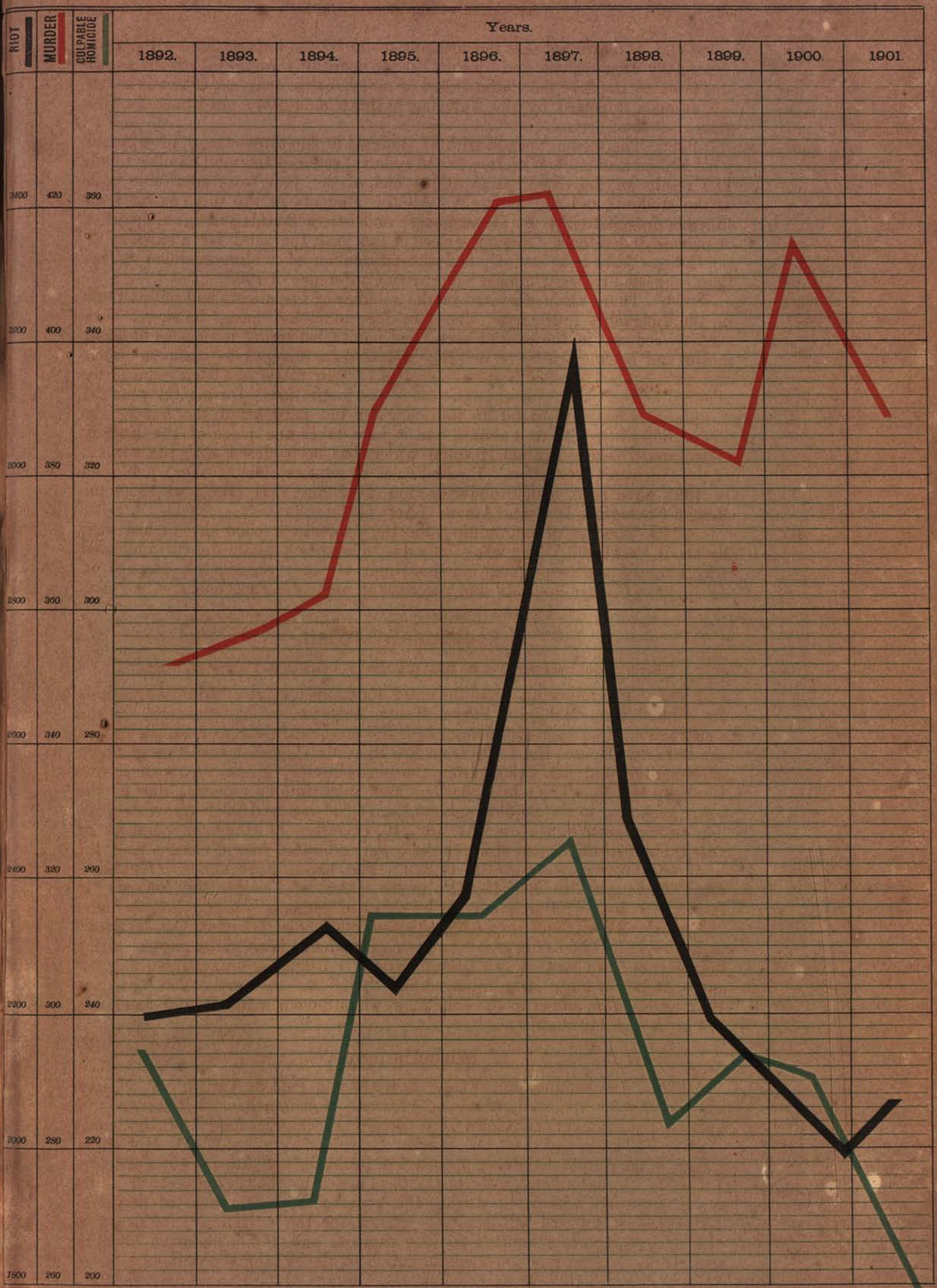
926. An examination for these Services was held in April 1901. Ninety-nine candidates appeared, of whom 12 were Muhammadans, 5 Bihari Hindus and 2 Uriyas. Five candidates were selected for appointment as Probationary Deputy Collectors: of these one was an Uriya, and another Bihari Muhammadan. Three candidates were appointed as Probationary Sub-Deputy Collectors.

Curtailment and reduction of periodical Reports and Returns.

927. In accordance with instructions issued by the Government of India, much attention was given during the year to the curtailment of periodical Reports and Returns. Orders were passed for the curtailment of many of the annual reports submitted to Government, and the curtailment of other reports and returns was under consideration at the close of the year.

B. S. Press—522J—640—20-4-1903—C. A. P.

Crime Chart of Riot, Murder, and Culpable Homicide in Bengal Districts for 10 years ending 1901.

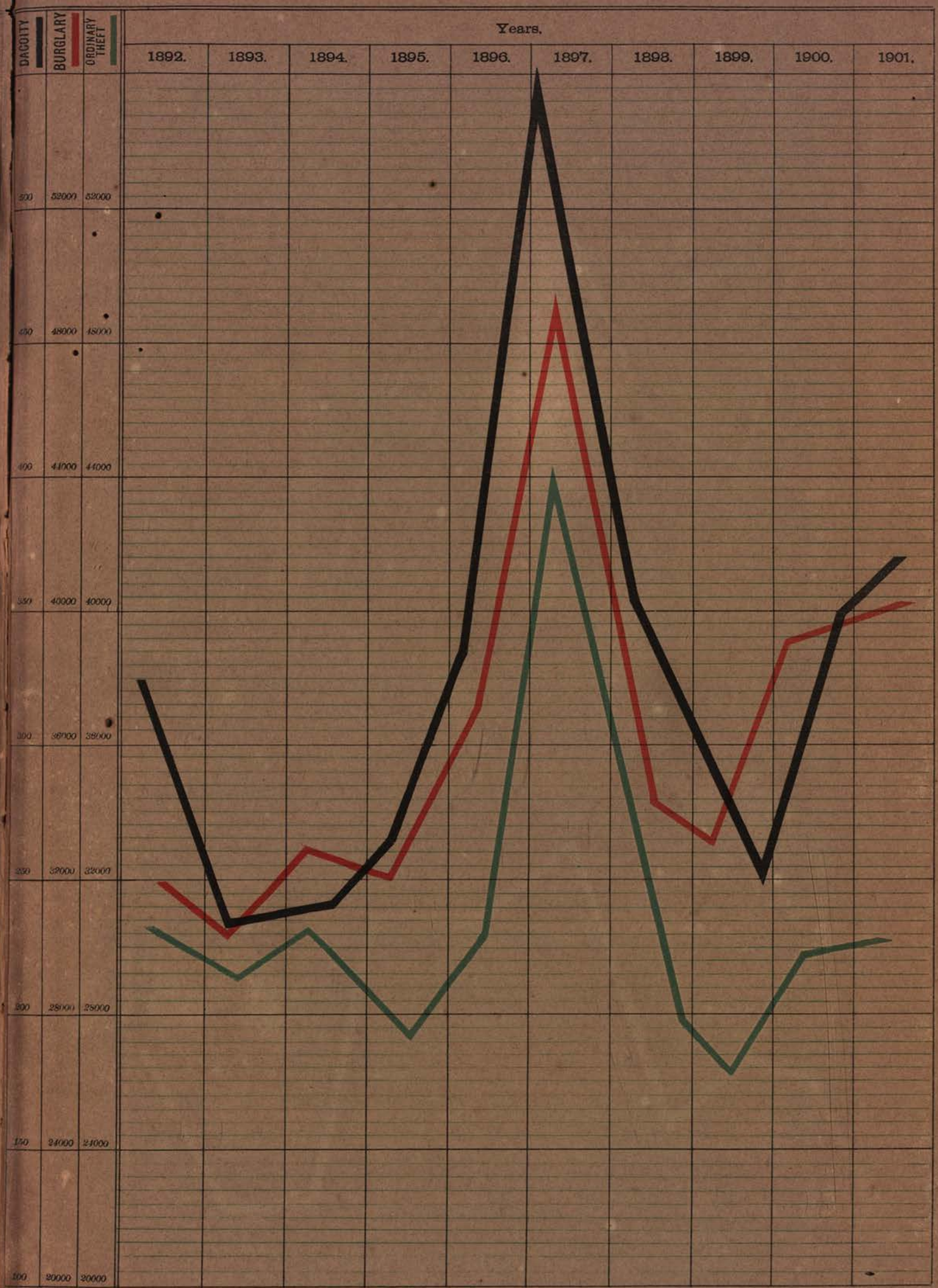


The figures in the vertical columns on the left represent Nos. of the cases. The spaces between the horizontal lines on their right represent in the case of Rioting 20 cases, Murder and Culpable Homicide 2 cases.

No. 315 Inspector Genl. of Police, Bengal.—July 02.—350.

Litho. S. I. O. Calcutta.

Crime Chart of Dacoity, Burglary, and Ordinary Theft in Bengal Districts for 10 years ending 1901.



The figures in the vertical columns on the left represent Nos. of the cases. The space between the horizontal lines in the chart on their right represent in the case of Dacoity 5 cases, Burglary and Theft 400 cases.

Reg. No. 315. Inspector Genl. of Police, Bengal.—July 02.—350

Litho. S. I. O., Calcutta.

Reg. No. 127, Wr., Bengal —Mar. 02.—775.

Zinco., S. I. O., Calcutta.

Zinco. S. I. O., Calcutta.

Reg. No. 127, Wr., Bengal.—Mar. 02.—775

Reg. No. 819 Ch. Engr., Bengal Works—Sept. '02.—1,000.

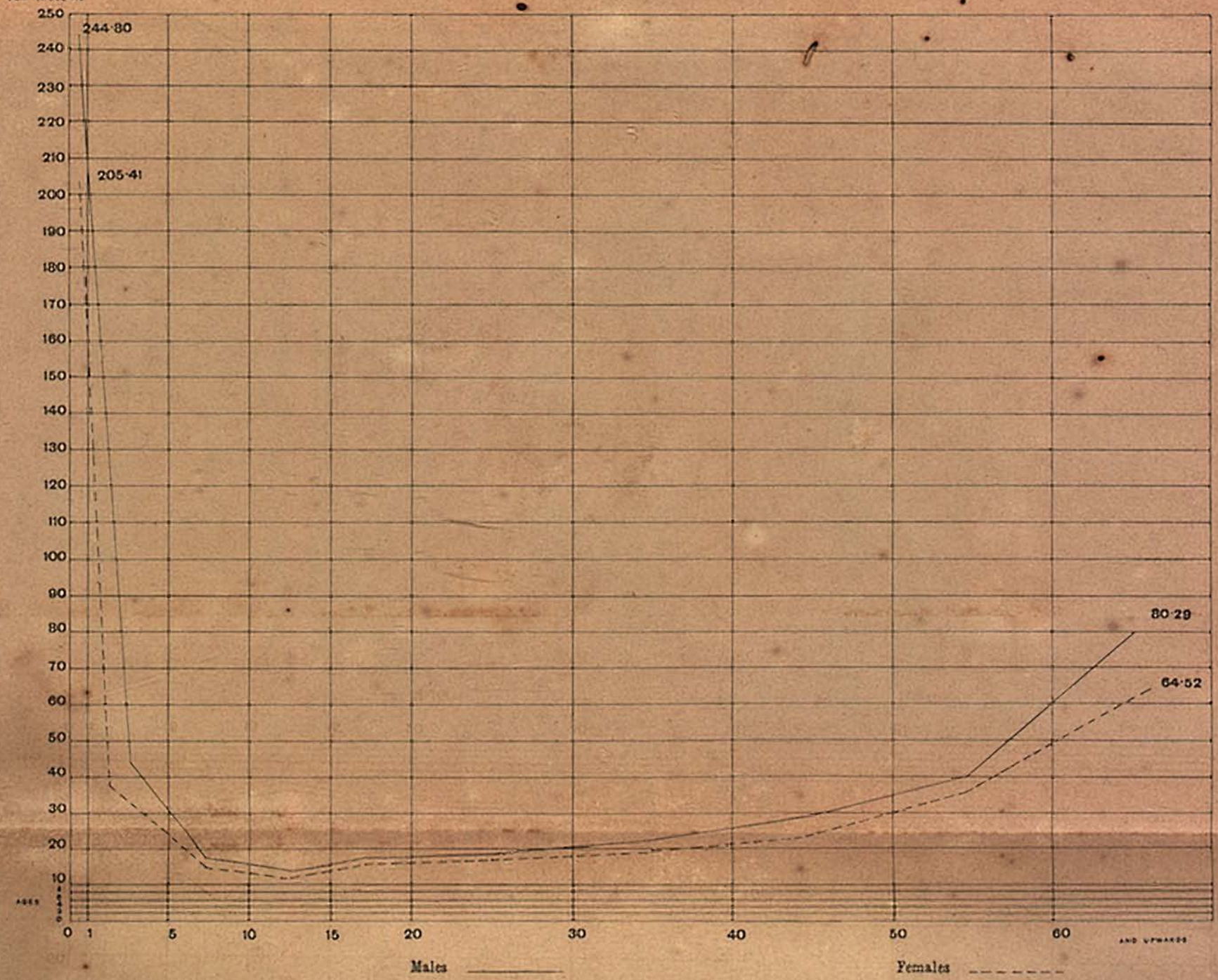
Litho., S. T. O., Calcutta

No. 3
Map of the
BIHAR & BENARES OPIUM AGENCIES
SHOWING THE
PERCENTAGE OF CULTIVATION UNDER POPPY
for 1900-01.
Scale 1 Inch = 32 Miles.
REFERENCES.
Districts in which the Poppy Cultivation is more than 2 per cent. of general cultivation, shown thus
Do. do. do. 1 do. do.
Do. do. less than 1 do. do.
I
II
III
78°
80°
82°
84°
86°
28°
26°
24°
BIJNOR
MEERUT
MOHADABAD
RAMPUR
BULANDSHAHR
BUDAUN
BAREILLY
SHAHJAHANPUR
ALIGARH
MUTTRA
BHURTPORE
AGRA
FARUKHABAD
MAINPURI
ETAH
BARDOI
SITAPUR
BAHRAICH
GONDA
LUCKNOW
UNAO
CAWNPORE
DHOLPUR
GWALIOR
JALAUN
FATEHPUR
PARTABGARH
ALLAHABAD
JHANSI
GHAZIPUR
BENARES
BALLIA
MOTIHARI
DARBHANGA
MUZAFFARPUR
GAYA
BAYA DUMRA
BUNDELKHAND
LALITPUR
TEHRI
PANNA
REWAH
SAUGOR
DAMOH
PALAMAU
HAZARIBAGH
Rajkhota
Salona
Banki
Bijnor
Kalidungi
Haldwani
Barmadeo
Sil Garhi
Pipra

10 YEARS, 1892—01.

AVERAGE ANNUAL DEATH-RATES

From all Classes per Thousand Living at Various Ages and Groups of Ages.



Reg. No. 301, Govt. Bengal, Municipal Dept.—Sept. 01.—693.

Litho. S. I. O., Calcutta.

No. I.

Excludes Schools for Europeans.

REFERENCES.

Class 1. Above 20 per cent.

,, 2. 10 to 20 ,,

,, 3. 5 to 10 ,,

No. II.

Excludes Schools for Europeans.

REFERENCES.

Class 1. Above 2 per cent.

„ 2. 1 to 2 „

„ 3. From ·5 to 1 per cent.

„ 4. Below ½ or ·5 „

Excludes Schools for Europeans.

REFERENCES.

Class 1. Over 40 per cent.

" 2. 30 to 40 "

" 3. 20 to 30 "

" 4. 10 to 20 "

Map of the
LOWER PROVINCES
OF
BENGAL
SHOWING THE
PERCENTAGE OF GIRLS UNDER INSTRUCTION
IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS
in 1901-02.
Scale 1 Inch = 80 Miles or nearly
Excludes Schools for Europeans.
REFERENCES.
Class 1. Above 3 per cent.
„ 2. 2 to 3 „
„ 3. 1 to 2 „
„ 4. Below 1 „
1 NIRSINGHPUR
2 BARAMBA
3 TIGIRIA
4 ATHGAR
BENGAL
BAY OF
Mouths of the Ganges
CENTRAL PROVINCES
MADRAS PRESIDENCY
NEPAL
BHUTAN
SIKKIM
ASSAM
CHOTA NAGPUR
BIHAR
ORISSA
HILL TIPPERA
CALCUTTA
PURI
BALASORE
CUTTACK
JASHPUR
SAMBALPUR
Tulsipur
Gonda
Mankapur
Uska Bazar
Pyzabad
Basti
Gorakhpur
Raxaul
Motihari
Darjeeling
Gangtok
Purnea
Cooch Behar
Dinajpur
Rangpur
Jalpaiguri
Tura
Jaunpur
Ghazipur
Ballia
Chapra
Muzaffarpur
Darbhanga
Barhaj Bazar
Azamgarh
Salimpur
Bhagalpur
Rajmahal
Maldah
English Bazar
Dubrajpur
Manbhum
Purulia
Bankura
Midnapore
Hooghly
Howrah
Jessore
Khulna
Barisal
Dacca
Mymensingh
Jagannathganj
Sirajganj
Pabna
Rampur Boalia
Murshidabad
Berhampur
Patna
Gaya
Deoghar
Naya Dumka
Hazaribagh
Ranchi
Lohardaga
Palamau
Daltonganj
Sasaram
Arrah
Buxar
Ghazipur
Allahabad
Mirzapur
Chunar
Bilaspur
Raigarh
Jharsuguda
Bhundesar
Ganjam
Agartala
Ajjal
Comilla
Laksam
Chandpur
Noakhali
Lungleh
Chittagong
Kaladan
Akyab
Sandip Channel
Hatia Channel
Hooghly R.
Damodar R.
Subarnarekha R.
Mahanadi R.
Brahmaputra R.
Ganges R.
Kosi R.
Gogra R.
Son R.
Karnaphuli R.
Kaladan R.
Naf R.
Sangu R.
Matla R.
Kasai R.
Rupnarayan R.
Haldia
Diamond Harbour
Chilka Lake
Pori
Kendrapara
Jajpur
Cuttack
Balasore
Midnapore
Kanchrapara
Krishnagar
Nadia
Bhagalpur
Purnea
Darjeeling
Jalpaiguri
Cooch Behar
Rangpur
Dinajpur
Maldah
Rajmahal
Dumka
Deoghar
Hazaribagh
Ranchi
Purulia
Manbhum
Bankura
Midnapore
Hooghly
Howrah
Jessore
Khulna
Barisal
Dacca
Mymensingh
Sirajganj
Pabna
Rampur Boalia
Murshidabad
Patna
Gaya
Sasaram
Arrah
Buxar
Ghazipur
Allahabad
Mirzapur
Chunar
Jaunpur
Ballia
Chapra
Muzaffarpur
Darbhanga
Barhaj Bazar
Azamgarh
Salimpur
Gonda
Mankapur
Uska Bazar
Pyzabad
Basti
Gorakhpur
Raxaul
Motihari
Darjeeling
Gangtok
Purnea
Cooch Behar
Dinajpur
Rangpur
Jalpaiguri
Tura

Reg. No. 730, Inst., Bengal.—Nov. 02.—1,310.

Zinco., S. I. O., Calcutta

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